



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

July 6, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

I am transmitting herewith HB 546 HD2 SD2 CD1, without my approval and with the statement of objections relating to the measure.

HB546 HD2 SD2 CD1

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Y. Ige".

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 6, 2021

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 546

Honorable Members
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 546, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Education."

The purposes of this bill are to: (1) require Complex Area Superintendents to report directly to the Superintendent of Education (Superintendent); (2) require the Department of Education (DOE)'s Office of Information Technology Services to submit a report to the Legislature pertaining to the restructuring requirements in the next biennium set forth in the bill; and (3) require the DOE's Office of Strategy, Innovation, and Performance to submit a report to the Legislature pertaining to the restructuring requirements in the next biennium set forth in the bill.

This bill is objectionable because it circumvents the statutory control and authority of the Board of Education to determine the organizational structure of the department. The structural change in staff reporting at the DOE that this bill prescribes may prevent the Superintendent from effectively conducting the Superintendent's core job functions by overburdening the Superintendent with the additional responsibility of supervising the work of 15 Complex Area Superintendents. The primary role of the Superintendent is to oversee the planning, organizing, and directing of system-wide programming, financing, and personnel. The existing organizational structure allows the Superintendent to focus on the overall strategic planning and vision for the DOE. Currently, Complex Area Superintendents report to the Deputy Superintendent, who is charged with overseeing academic and educator development and is better positioned to oversee the work of Complex Area Superintendents.

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Additionally, this bill would make a significant alteration to organizational reporting structure within the DOE through statute. Writing this change into state law may make it difficult for the DOE to make future changes in reporting structure without first receiving legislative approval. This would significantly hinder DOE's ability to aptly develop a dynamic organizational structure that best serves the needs of students, administrators, and other school functions.

Furthermore, the organization of each department is established via detailed organizational charts, which are comprised of multiple levels of organizational units. These organizational structures are developed based on public-service needs, budget restraints, and sound administrative practices and are periodically revised to address changing circumstances. Initiating reorganizations through the legislative process largely ignores all of these multifaceted considerations.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 546 without my approval.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Y. Ige", with a stylized flourish at the end.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor of Hawai'i