



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

May 10, 2010

Dr. Thelma Melendez
Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202

SUBJECT: Request to Waive Prohibition on Approving an Identified School or LEA as an SES Provider

Dear Dr. Melendez:

The Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) is requesting a one-year waiver of the Title I, Part A regulatory provision that prohibits a State from approving as providers of supplemental educational services (SES) schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring and local educational agencies (LEAs) identified for improvement or corrective action (34 C.F.R. § 200.47(b)(1)(iv)(A), (B)).

Under the law, a state may approve as an SES provider only an entity that has a demonstrated record of effectiveness in increasing student academic achievement. The HIDOE believes that identified schools may be able to establish that they have an effective program that can help improve academic achievement of students and should not be prevented automatically from gaining approval simply because of their improvement status.

The HIDOE has set the following annual measurable objectives (AMOs) in reading and mathematics, subjects that are among those covered by SES providers in Hawaii for the 2010–2011 school year:

By the end of the school year, the schools will increase proficiency in Reading to 72% and in Math to 64% for SY 2010-2011 on the Hawaii State Assessment.

The HIDOE will determine adequate yearly progress (AYP) based on assessments administered in the 2010–2011 school year in accordance with the requirements of section 1111(b)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). The HIDOE believes that, ultimately, allowing some identified schools to serve as SES providers may help more students within Hawaii to reach the State's proficiency objectives.

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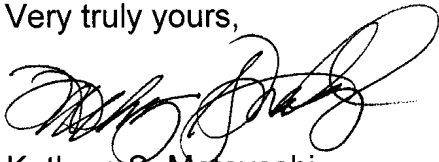
If the HIDOE is granted the requested waiver, the HIDOE will ensure that only those schools that meet the State's requirements for SES providers are approved to be on the State's list of approved SES providers for the 2010–2011 school year.

The HIDOE is one school system and therefore does not have separate Local Educational Agencies. The HIDOE provided notice and information regarding this waiver request to the public by posting information regarding the waiver request on its Web site, <http://doe.k12.hi.us/nclb/vendors/index.htm>.

The HIDOE hereby assures that, if it is granted the requested waiver, it will submit to the U.S. Department of Education, by September 30, 2011, a report that provides the total number of schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or restructuring that were approved to be an SES provider for the 2010–2011 school year.

Please feel free to contact Sharon Nakagawa, Administrator, Special Programs Management Section, by phone (808) 203-5203 or email at sharon_nakagawa@notes.k12.hi.us, if you have any questions regarding this request.

Very truly yours,



Kathryn S. Matayoshi
Interim Superintendent

KSM:at

c: Federal Compliance and Project Management Office
Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Support