Dear Chairs Kidani and Harimoto and Members of the Committees,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawai’i’s State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), supports HB 2510, HD 1 that establishes a housing voucher program for full-time public school classroom teachers.

SEAC and others have supported additional incentives for special education teachers to help recruit and retain these critically needed personnel. Accordingly, SEAC offers a suggestion to this Committee that the housing vouchers, if funded, be given out with a priority for teachers filling shortage categories.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Martha Guinan
Chair