EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS HONOLULU

June **\O** , 1999

ORIGINAL

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1088

Honorable Members Twentieth Legislature State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 1088, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to School Attendance."

The purpose of House Bill No. 1088 is to have the Board of Education conduct a study examining the minimum age that children should attain to attend kindergarten. The study is to include the establishment of readiness standards for entering kindergartners and the procedure to assess children by these standards. No appropriation is made for the study.

I support the goal of the bill to improve education. However, establishing readiness standards for entrance and assessing children by such standards risk excluding children who most need to have educational experiences to support their intellectual, language, and social development. A better approach is to improve accountability at each grade level and prohibit social promotion. Furthermore, this bill lacks the legislative funding commitment to conduct the study.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 1088 without my approval.

Respectfully,

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, under Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the Governor is required to give notice, by a proclamation, of his plan to return with his objections any bill presented to him less than ten days before adjournment sine die or presented to him after adjournment sine die of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1088, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to School Attendance," passed by the Legislature, was presented to the Governor within the aforementioned period; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1088 is unacceptable to the Governor of the State of Hawaii;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO, Governor of the State of Hawaii, do hereby issue this proclamation, pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, giving notice of my plan to return House Bill No. 1088 with my objections thereon to the Legislature as provided by said Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution.

DONE at the State Capitol, Honolulu, State of Hawaii, this day of June, 1999.

MONJAMIN J. CAYETANO Governor of Hawaii