

Date: 04/02/2012

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 166,HD1(hscr1395-12) / HR128,HD1(hscr1394-12) REQUESTING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAII FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE OF THE READING, MATH, SCIENCE, AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN GRADES THREE THROUGH SIX OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM AND FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY STATUTE OR RULE OF AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAII.

Purpose of Resolution: To request the Department of Education to formally acknowledge the establishment of Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawaii or the Hawaiian language immersion advisory council, in the Hawaii Revised Statutes, or through the Hawaii Administrative Rules.

Department's Position:
Supports intent of these resolutions

The Department of Education supports the intent of these resolutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support on these resolutions.



HR128 HD1/HCR166 HD1

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND BOARD OF EDUCATION TO
FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF 'AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAI'I
AND TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF 'AHA
KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAI'I ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE
IMMERSION PROGRAM**

House Committee on Education

April 2, 2012

2:00 p.m.

Room 309

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on HR128 HD1/HCR166 HD1, which request the Department of Education and Board of Education to formally codify the establishment of the 'Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i in state law or administrative rules. The resolutions also urge the department and board to implement the recommendations of the 'Aha Kauleo.

The OHA Administration will recommend that our Board of Trustees support these resolutions with amendments. We note that the initial drafts of these resolutions also addressed the challenges the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is facing regarding the translated Hawai'i State Assessment. While the HD1 versions of these resolutions now focus on the formal establishment of the 'Aha Kauleo, a number of clauses in the resolutions still refer to the translated assessment issues. Therefore, we ask that the resolutions be amended by deleting lines 17 through 27 on page 1; and lines 1-21 and lines 35-41 on page 2.

We appreciate that the DOE has reconvened the 'Aha Kauleo, and we hope that the DOE will now formally establish this critical advisory body in statute or administrative rules to ensure that the DOE continues to receive direct advice from Hawaiian language immersion stakeholders and experts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.