



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

Testimony of Governor Neil Abercrombie

In **Support** of

S.B. 1084 H.D. 1, Proposing An Amendment to Article X, Section 1,
Of The Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early
Childhood Education Programs

S.B. 1093 H.D. 1, Relating to School Readiness

S.B. 1095 H.D. 1, Relating to Early Childhood Education

House Committee on Finance

April 2, 2013

2:00 p.m., Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Johanson, and members of the Committee:

Good afternoon. I am in **strong support of Senate Bill 1084 H.D. 1, Senate Bill 1093 H.D. 1, and Senate Bill 1095 H.D. 1.**

The Time is Now

We're faced with a kindergarten cliff. In 2014, 5,100 children will no longer be able to attend kindergarten due to the change in kindergarten entry age mandated by the Legislature. The School Readiness Program helps ensure 3,500 late-born four-year-old children will be ready to learn on day one of kindergarten. We estimate that other programs such as Head Start and Kamehameha Schools will be able to serve 1,600 children.

Recognizing the significant returns of such an investment, all but 11 states have already invested in preschool programs over the past decade.

President Obama and Sen. Mazie Hirono have put early learning at the top of their agendas. By implementing a program now, Hawaii will be in a position to take advantage of federal monies that will be made available through their early learning proposals, which are being designed as federal-state cost-sharing models focused on quality and not simply more seats. Note that Hawaii lost out on Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant monies because we did not have an early learning program in place.

The approach that my Administration has offered for your consideration is a balance of need and resources. While our proposal does require an investment, it is a cost that will enhance Hawai'i's fiscal health by contributing to the creation of adults who will be productive workers rather than require expenditures in corrections and other social services.

Background for Legislation

Attached are:

- A summary of the three bills.

- A workflow/timeline for implementation of the School Readiness Program.
- An advice letter from the Department of the Attorney General explaining the need for the Constitutional amendment.

Summary of Funding Request

EDN700

- Direct services of a statewide early learning program - to ensure that 3,500 four-year-olds have access to high-quality school readiness opportunities through contracts with providers.
 - Original request: \$22.9M in FY15.
- For capacity building and quality assurance – costs for contracting, applications processing, monitoring, and evaluation.
 - Original request: \$2.9M in FY14 / \$5.3M in FY15

GOV100

- For EOEL positions (originally 7 total in FY14, 8 total in FY15) and other operational costs - to coordinate and manage the early learning system pursuant to Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012.
 - Original request: \$648,300 in FY14 / \$681,300 in FY15

Not School Vouchers

The School Readiness Program and Early Childhood Education Program are not voucher programs: families will not receive the subsidy nor be able to enroll their children in any program of their choice. The State will pay the contracted providers directly – only those that meet the requirements established by EOEL. Also, the Constitutional amendment proposed by S.B. 1084 S.D. 1 is narrowly crafted to be specific to early childhood education programs as specified by legislation.

Separation of Church and State

These programs, and the Constitutional amendment, will not change the separation of church and State. However, the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL), through which the programs would be administered, would like to work with faith-based programs to bring them into the State's early learning system as much as possible.

Despite the general nationwide prohibition on use of state funds to pay for religious instruction, states including Illinois have faith-based providers who have chosen to participate in their state-funded program. In our consultations with Ounce of Prevention, a national organization that works with other states to advocate for access to quality early childhood experiences, we have found that many families choose to enroll their children in faith-based programs with the expectation that during the non-state funded portion of the day, their children will receive religious instruction. In South Dakota, although some faith-based providers chose not to participate in the state-funded program, many of them, including the Catholic diocese, recognized that the state could fill the role they could not fill themselves as part of their belief in the power of preschool to improve child outcomes and the overall community.

Helping K-12

An educational P-20 system that ensures children are ready to learn when they enter kindergarten strengthens K-12 and post-secondary outcomes. Alignment from pre-kindergarten through college

is achieved when we invest in early learning.

This is my highest priority because I wholeheartedly believe this is how we can best improve the lives of our keiki and all of Hawaii. I urge you to support these bills.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My staff and Director Terry Lock of the Executive Office on Early Learning are here to answer any questions you may have.

Summary of 2013 Legislation

The Governor's legislative package includes three bills that are specific to the development of an effective, high-quality early learning system for Hawaii's children. All of these bills are critical to the immediate and long-term plans of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL).

- **Constitutional Amendment (S.B. 1084)**

- We believe it is necessary to include the state's existing network of private preschools, which:
 - Make up the backbone of the state's preschool services (expertise and available capacity); and
 - Have a clear educational purpose (explicit educational goals and standards will result in the higher-quality services that will help us achieve the outcomes we need to make a difference for our keiki and our state).
- To do this, the Attorney General says a ConAm is required to address the State's prohibition on private preschools receiving public funds.
- Bill proposes a ConAm to allow public funds to be appropriated "for the support or benefit of private early childhood education programs as provided by law." The amendment is narrowly crafted to be specific to early childhood education programs as specified by legislation.
- Only when voters ratify the ConAm will we be able to implement the Early Childhood Education Program and develop an effective, high-quality early learning system.
- Once we realized the Constitutional roadblock to implementing the original plan, we added phases to the plan.

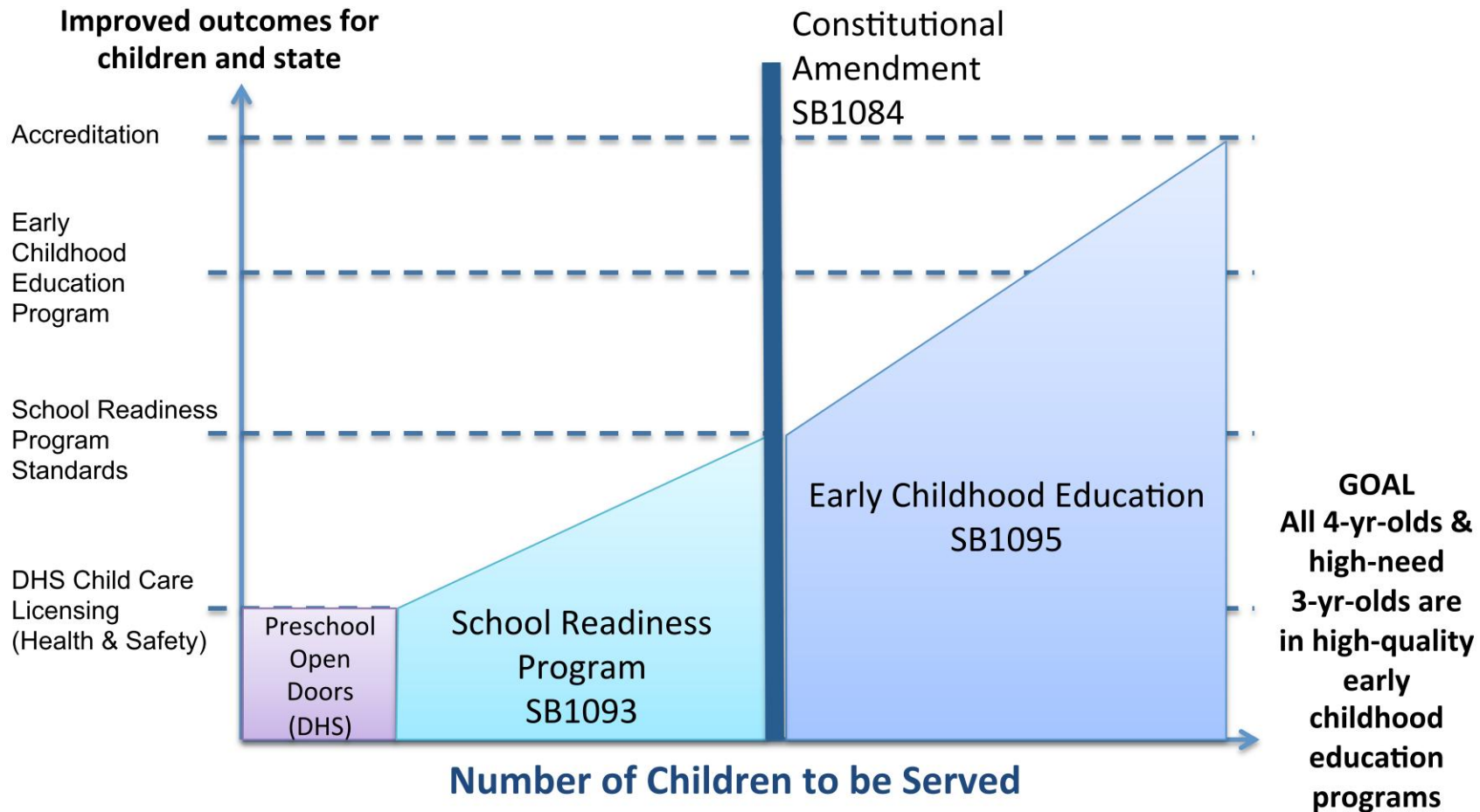
- **Phase 1 - Establishment of the School Readiness Program (S.B. 1093)**

- What can be implemented now, without a ConAm.
- Designed to serve about 3,500 late-born four-year-olds whose kindergarten entry will be delayed until the 2015-2016 school year due to the 2014 change in kindergarten entry age that was mandated by the Legislature.
- Delivered through contracts with DHS-licensed and license-exempt (the latter added by H.B. 862 H.D.1) child care programs and DOE, that meet quality standards established by EOEL.
- Allows more children to be ready to learn on day one of kindergarten by focusing more on socialization skills.
- Establishes the infrastructure for the Early Childhood Education Program.
- Start date: Fall 2014.

- **Phase 2 - Establishment of the Early Childhood Education Program (S.B. 1095)**

- The large, full-scale program that can be implemented only with a ConAm.
- Serves more children: three- and four-year-old children, with priority for fours.
- Delivered through contracts with private early childhood education providers and DOE, that meet quality standards established by EOEL.
- Will help a child with social-emotional development but also intellectual development. Incorporates higher standards for curriculum, assessment, and teacher quality that can be aligned with 100% of the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards. Tied to educational outcomes. Still developmentally appropriate.
- Only under this program will we be able to hold participating providers accountable for educational outcomes, which is what is needed to help us achieve the outcomes we want for children.
- Because the focus is on education, the risk of it being challenged under the Constitution is high - there has been litigation in the past.
- Start date (assuming the ConAm is ratified): Fall 2016.

Required Quality of Programs

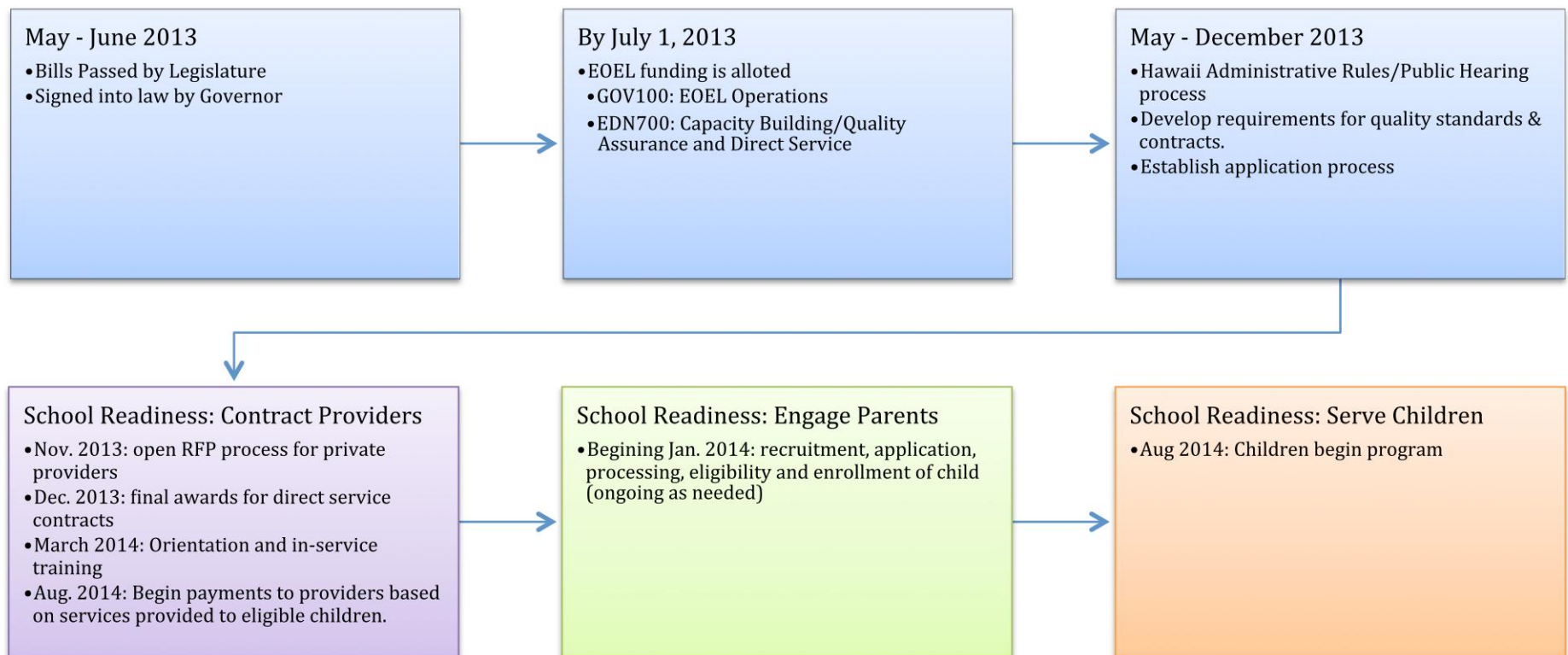


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|-----------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------|---|
| Timeline | FY14 ending 6/30/2014 | Services to be provided via contracts for FY15, beginning 7/1/2014. | Nov. 2014 Election | Services to be provided via contracts issued after the Constitutional amendment |
| Budget | \$1.6 M/yr. for subsidies | FY14 \$3.5M for startup & admin. (GOV100 & EDN700) FY15 \$22.9M for direct services (School Readiness) (EDN700) + \$6M to support capacity building & admin (GOV100 & EDN700) | | <i>Future biennium budget requests.</i> |



Office of the Governor
Executive Office on Early Learning

Initially, the proposed program gives EOEL six months of planning to: write administrative rules, contract private providers, and then begin to determine eligibility of families starting January 2014. Below are details:



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



DAVID M. LOUIE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

RUSSELL A. SUZUKI
FIRST DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
425 QUEEN STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 586-1500

February 12, 2013

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor of Hawai'i
Office of the Governor
State of Hawai'i
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Need for Amendment to State Constitution to Allow Use of Public Funds
for Private Early Childhood Education Programs

Dear Governor Abercrombie:

This responds to a request from your office to respond to an assertion made by a testifier at legislative hearings on the Administration's proposal seeking an amendment to article X, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution to permit the use of public funds to support or benefit early childhood programs as provided by law who proclaims that a constitutional amendment is not necessary.

As Governor, you have proclaimed that an early childhood education program deserves a preferred position in our hierarchy of values and is necessary in order for our children to develop to their fullest potential at the formative years of brain development. Through your efforts in 2012, the Legislature enacted Act 178 to establish the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) within your office. As the EOEL began to develop its initiatives and programs which called for private-public partnership in the delivery of its programs, our office advised the EOEL that article X, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution, which provides, "nor shall public funds be appropriated for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution," poses an impediment to this initiative. With our advice, it was determined that a two-track strategy would be effected where legislation (H.B. No. 862 and S.B. 1093) would be proposed to immediately authorize a school readiness program within the early learning system which would focus on physical, cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional development, but will not provide any instructional services that supplant or duplicate the academic program of any public or private school. Because this program would not have a formal and structured academic component we advised that we would be able to defend that it does not violate article X, section 1. However, in order for the EOEL to develop and deliver an early childhood education program that would utilize private providers, H.B. 853 and its companion S.B. No. 1084 proposes the constitutional amendment to allow public funds to be used for private early

childhood education programs as provided by law and H.B. No. 864 and S.B. No. 1095 were proposed as implementing legislation. We advised that a constitutional amendment is necessary in order to obviate constitutional challenges of the use of public funds to pay private providers of early childhood education programs under the statewide early learning system currently being developed pursuant to chapter 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes (Chapter 302L), entitled "Early Learning System."

THE ISSUE PRESENTED AND SHORT ANSWER

The issue presented is whether an amendment to article X, section 1, of the Hawai'i Constitution is necessary in order to permit the use of public funds to pay private providers of early education programs under the statewide early learning system. As previously communicated to your office, article X, section 1 prohibits the appropriation of public funds to support or benefit private educational institutions. Consequently, we advise that an amendment which carves out an exception allowing public monies to be appropriated for the support or benefit of private early childhood education programs is necessary.

BACKGROUND

With respect to the early education bills, and based on our belief that a constitutional amendment is necessary in order to allow the State to use public funds to pay private early childhood education providers, the administration package also contains bills seeking to amend article X, section 1, of the Hawai'i Constitution by carving out a narrow exception that would permit public funds to be used for early childhood education programs (S.B. No. 1084 and H.B. No. 853). Thus, the early education bills are contingent upon the passage of the constitutional amendment bills.

We believe a constitutional amendment is necessary in connection with the program advanced by the early education bills, but not with respect to the program under the school readiness bills. This is due to the differences in the programs. The school readiness program will prepare children for school by addressing their physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development and will not provide any instructional services that supplant or duplicate the academic program of any public or private school. In contrast, the early childhood education program will address all of these needs, plus go the extra step of addressing children's educational needs as well. Specifically, the educational component of the early childhood education program will align with state content and performance standards for grades kindergarten to twelve to facilitate a seamless and high-quality educational experience for children. Thus, the early childhood education program will have an academic component, while the school readiness program will not. As will be explained more fully below, article X, section 1 applies to "private educational institutions," as opposed to institutions focusing on school readiness skills.

Both the school readiness and early childhood education programs are designed to be a public-private partnership. This means that the State intends to contract with both public and private providers under the programs.

Again, it is the early childhood education program that is at issue here. As noted, we believe a constitutional amendment is needed before the State can use public funds to contract with private providers of early childhood education programs.

DISCUSSION

Article X of the Hawai'i Constitution is entitled "Education." Article X, section 1 states as follows:

Section 1. The State shall provide for the establishment, support and control of a statewide system of public schools free from sectarian control, a state university, public libraries and such other educational institutions as may be deemed desirable, including physical facilities therefore. There shall be no discrimination in public educational institutions because of race, religion, sex or ancestry; **nor shall public funds be appropriated for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution**, except that special purpose revenue bonds authorized under section 12 of Article VII may be appropriated to finance or assist:

1. Not-for profit corporations that provide early childhood education and care facilities serving the general public; and
2. Not-for-profit private nonsectarian and sectarian elementary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities. (Bold and underscore emphasis added).

The foregoing presents a clear constitutional prohibition on the use of public monies to support or benefit private educational institutions. What qualifies as a "private educational institution" is not defined in the Constitution, nor are we aware of any judicial interpretation of that phrase. While it is clear that private kindergarten to grade 12 programs fall within the definition based on the Spears v. Honda decision discussed below, it is less clear with respect to private preschools.

The question then is whether public funds can be used to pay for private providers needed to implement the early childhood education program. It is our understanding that the majority of these early childhood education providers will be private preschools. Thus, if private preschools and other early education providers are deemed to be "private educational institutions" as the phrase is used in article X, section 1, then a constitutional amendment of the type that is

currently before both houses of the Legislature is indeed required. Rather than delivering a program with the constant uncertainty that it may face a legal challenge that it violates article X, section 1, amending article X, section 1 to clearly permit the use of public funds to contract with private providers to deliver some of the early childhood education programs eliminates that legal challenge.

In interpreting a phrase in the Constitution, "[t]he general rule is that, if the words used in a constitutional provision ... are clear and unambiguous, they are to be construed as they are written[.]" Nelson v. Hawaiian Homes Commission, 127 Hawai'i 185, 197, 277 P.3d 279, 291 (2012) (internal quotation marks omitted) (quoting Spears v. Honda, 51 Haw. 1, 6, 449 P.2d 130, 134 (1968)). Furthermore, "[t]he words in a constitutional provision are also 'presumed to be used in their natural sense.'" Nelson, 127 Hawai'i at 198 (quoting Employees' Retirement System v. Ho, 44 Haw. 154, 159, 352 P.2d 861, 864 (1960)).

As far as we can tell, the phrase "private educational institution" is not defined in any dictionary. The first term of the phrase, "private," naturally means something other than a public or governmental program, institution, etc. The remaining terms of the phrase, "educational institution," is defined as "an institution dedicated to education," (see Webster-dictionary.org, dictionary.reference.com, thefreedictionary.com), or an "establishment dedicated to educating people" (see babylon.com). Thus, in the natural sense, the phrase "private educational institution" means a private institution (i.e., a non-public or non-governmental institution) that is dedicated to education. Although private preschools participating in the early childhood education program would appear to fit squarely within this natural interpretation of the phrase "private educational institution," this alone does not tell us whether the framers of the Constitution intended such an interpretation.

"In such a situation, we may look to the history of 'the times and the state of being when the constitutional provision was adopted.'" Nelson, 127 Hawai'i at 198 (quoting State v. Kahlbaun, 64 Haw. 197, 202, 638 P.2d 309, 315 (1981)). "In doing so, 'the object sought to be accomplished and the evils sought to be remedied should be kept in mind by the courts.'" Nelson, 127 Hawai'i at 198 (quoting Hawaii Gov't Employees' Ass'n v. County of Maui, 59 Haw. 65, 81, 576 P.2d 1029, 1039 (1978)). "In order to give effect to the intention of the framers and the people adopting a constitutional provision, an examination of the debates, proceedings and committee reports are useful." Nelson, 127 Hawai'i at 198 (quoting Kahlbaun, 64 Haw. at 204, 638 P.2d at 316).

The controlling authority in Hawai'i with respect to interpreting the framers' purpose or intent behind article X, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution is Spears v. Honda, 51 Haw. 1, 449 P.2d 130 (1968), in which the Hawai'i Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional two statutory provisions and an administrative rule which authorized subsidies to private and sectarian school students for bus transportation to and from school. The Spears court determined that the bus subsidies constituted "support or benefit" of private schools in violation of article IX of the

Hawai'i Constitution (article IX was later renumbered to article X during the Constitutional Convention of 1978).

At the outset of this discussion of Spears, we point out that the case is not directly on-point with our situation. First, Spears dealt with the interpretation of the phrase "support or benefit," which is not at issue here. In addition, the case dealt with the constitutionality of a public bus subsidy for private school students, grades kindergarten to grade 12. Notwithstanding this, the decision is highly instructive with respect to the framers' intent behind article X, which can assist us determine whether the phrase "educational institution" also includes private preschools that provide education to children.

In Spears, the need to ensure the success of public schools is expressed as the reason for article X, section 1's prohibition against the use of public funds to support and strengthen private schools. The Hawai'i Supreme Court found that "the intent of the framers of our Constitution regarding the nature of appropriations constituting 'support or benefit' to sectarian and private schools is clear from the proceedings of our Constitutional Convention of 1950[.]" Spears, 51 Haw. at 7. The court noted that the Committee on Education's report presenting article IX to the Committee of the Whole was "permeated with a strong recognition of the importance and unique function of public education in a democratic state, as compared with nonpublic education." Id.¹ The court further noted that the Committee on Education had indicated it was "acting in accordance with the will of the electorate of Hawai'i in placing major emphasis on public education through a separate article on that subject in the Constitution rather than tacking or telescoping it into the article on general welfare." Id. The court believed that the emphasis on public education could be:

[L]argely attributed to the fact that, at that time, nonpublic schools in this jurisdiction were considered better able to provide education than public schools, although the latter had shouldered the burden of educating the bulk of the populace and of assimilating vast numbers of offspring or immigrants into the mainstream of American life, despite somewhat shabby treatment by the legislature.

Spears, 51 Haw. at 7. The court pointed out that "[t]he gap in the quality of education provided by public schools and the quality of education provided by private schools" was still apparent at the time of its decision in Spears. Id. at 7, n. 5.

The Spears court determined that any use of public monies resulting in the building-up or strengthening of a private school is prohibited by Article X. The court explained:

¹ Citing Standing Committee Report No. 52, The Proceedings of the Constitutional Convention Hawaii, Vol. I, 201-206 (1950).

The mechanics of the bus subsidy program at issue indicate that the fears of the framers were well-founded. The subsidy does 'build up, strengthen and make successful' the nonpublic schools. ... Also, ... the subsidy induces attendance at nonpublic schools, where the children are exposed to a curriculum that, in many cases, if not generally, promotes the special interests and biases of the nonpublic group that controls the school. Finally, to the extent that the State pays out funds to carriers owned by the nonpublic schools or agents thereof, the State is giving tangible 'support and benefit' to such schools.

Id. at 12-13.

The Spears court concluded that the bus subsidy violated article X and could not be lawfully reinstated unless the Constitution was amended.

As pointed out by the discussion of the historical bases of our Constitution, this state has tied its own hands regarding appropriations for the 'support or benefit' of nonpublic schools. ... [W]here the Legislature has not been granted the power by the people, under the State Constitution, to pass certain legislation, it cannot validly pass such legislation. Rather, the Legislature must return to the people to ask them to decide whether their State Constitution should be amended to grant the Legislature the power that it seeks[.]

Having decided that the Hawaii Constitution ties the hands of the Legislature and prohibits it from making any appropriation aiding a sectarian or private school, including subsidies for bus transportation, we are compelled to conclude that [the bus subsidy law] violate[s] Article IX, Section 1, to the extent that they authorize appropriations to sectarian and private schools.

Id. at 15 (bracketed language added).


CONCLUSION:

It is clear from the Spears decision that the Hawai'i Supreme Court has determined that the framers' intent behind article X, section 1 was to create a broad prohibition on the use of public monies to benefit or support private schools. Indeed, using public monies merely to subsidize the cost for bus transportation to and from private schools was determined to be prohibited because it would have the effect of building-up, strengthening and making the private schools successful as against the public schools.

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
February 12, 2013
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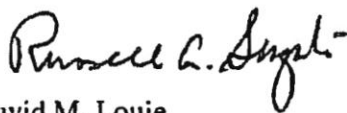
Under this reasoning, we believe article X, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution prohibits the use of public funds to pay for private early childhood education programs. As noted above, it is anticipated that the majority of the participating private early childhood education programs will be private preschools. Such private programs would be in direct competition with those public schools that currently have preschool, pre-kindergarten, or junior kindergarten programs.² Using public monies to help build-up and strengthen such private preschools to the detriment of public preschool programs is precisely what the framers intended to prevent. Moreover, public monies going to private preschools that are attached to, or affiliated with, a private K-12 program, could also be deemed to be benefit or support of the attached private K-12 programs. Consequently, we believe an amendment to article X, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution carving out an exception to permit the use of public funds to pay private providers of early education programs under the statewide early learning system would be needed in order to use public funds to pay for these private providers. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact us.

Very truly yours,



Gary S. Sugauma
Deputy Attorney General

APPROVED:



David M. Louie
Attorney General

² Although recently enacted law will repeal junior kindergarten starting in the 2014-2015 school year, there is nothing preventing the legislature from either extending junior kindergarten beyond the current repeal date, or to reinstate the program at some time in the future.



TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2013

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

DATE: Tuesday, April 2, 2013

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 308

TESTIFIER(S): David M. Louie, Attorney General, or
Gary S. Sukanuma, Deputy Attorney General

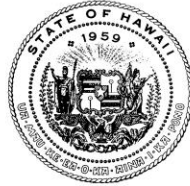
Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill, which is necessary to advance the Governor's initiative for a statewide early childhood education program, a program that the Department also supports.

The early childhood education program under S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, is designed to contract with both public and private providers in order to expand the number of children who will have a high quality early childhood education experience prior to entering kindergarten.

Article X, section 1, of the Hawaii Constitution currently prohibits the appropriation of public funds for the support or benefit of private educational institutions. This bill seeks to amend article X, section 1, of the Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for State contracts with interested and qualified private providers needed for the early childhood education program.

We understand that there may be concern that the proposed amendment to the Constitution may create a slippery slope to vouchers for K-12 education due to a misunderstanding that the amendment permits vouchers for early childhood education programs. The amendment is not self executing because it contains the words "as provided by law", which expressly reserves to the Legislature the authority to control what types of early childhood education programs will be permitted. The proposed implementing legislation, S.B. No. 1095, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, does not propose nor does it intend to permit the use of vouchers for the early childhood education programs.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Finance

**SB1084, SD1, HD1, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X,
SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE
APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health

April 2, 2013

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health supports this bill provided that its passage does not
2 replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Biennium Budget.

3 **Fiscal Implications:** None to the Department of Health

4 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this measure is to propose an amendment to the Hawaii
5 State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education
6 programs as provided by law. With the passage of this measure, the voters will decide if public funds
7 should be appropriated for the support of private early childhood education programs to provide an early
8 learning system for the children of Hawaii. The Department of Health promotes family and community
9 well-being and family choice in selecting an array of services to best meet the needs of their children.
10 We look forward to working with the Executive Office on Early Learning in developing a public-private
11 early learning system for children of Hawaii.

12 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

April 2, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 1084, S.D.1, H.D. 1 - PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO
ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION
TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR
PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Hearing: Tuesday, April 2, 2013; 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, is to propose an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports this Administration bill. Many of the families of late-born children affected by the change in kindergarten entry age in the 2014-2015 school year will be forced to find child care arrangements for an additional year. Without the implementation of a statewide early childhood education program, these displaced children may not attend a high-quality early education program in this extra year prior to kindergarten entry and may not be prepared with the skills necessary to be successful

learners when they enter kindergarten. Many working families are not able to afford the cost of tuition at a high-quality early education program as they struggle to make ends meet in Hawaii, one of the highest cost of living states in the nation.

In order to establish an early learning system in Hawaii and implement the proposed statewide early childhood education program, this Constitutional Amendment is necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

TED SAKAI
DIRECTOR

Martha Torney
Deputy Director
Administration

Max Otani
Deputy Director
Corrections

Keith Kamita
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1084, SENATE DRAFT (SD) 1, HOUSE DRAFT (HD) 1
PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII
STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC
FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

by

Ted Sakai, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 2, 2013; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) is in **support** of the Governor's Initiative proposing an Amendment to the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs to advance early learning initiatives for the children of Hawaii.

PSD acknowledges that quality early learning development programs provide an invaluable assistance to families in establishing a solid foundation for educational success and career development that will contribute to the future of Hawaii's flourishing community. On the other hand, the lack of this foundation is associated with negative indicators, such as criminality and incarceration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



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

Date: 04/02/2013

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1084,SD1,HD1 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Purpose of Bill: Proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, subject to non-discrimination provisions, as provided by law. Effective July 1, 2050. (SB1084 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports early childhood education programs. The Department recognizes the importance of establishing a quality early learning system to support all children toward a college- and career-ready future in Hawaii.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1084 SD1 HD1
A BILL PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1,
OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT
THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS
FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D. M. WONG
ADJUTANT GENERAL
April 2, 2013

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Members of the Finance Committee:

I am Major General Darryll D. M. Wong, State Adjutant General. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 1084 SD1 HD1.

SB 1084 SD1 HD1 is a proposed amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

We support the importance of establishing a quality early learning system that improves the likelihood of the future success of Hawaii's children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor

April 1, 2013

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair, the Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair, the Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 309, State Capitol

From: Dwight Y. Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: S.B. No. 1084 SD1HD1 RELATING TO PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations strongly supports SB1084 SD1HD1, which proposes an Amendment to the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs to advance early learning initiatives for the children of Hawaii. The Department recognizes the importance of establishing a quality early childhood education program to support all children towards further education and career training that will support the strengthening of Hawaii's workforce.

The DLIR, through the Workforce Development Division and Workforce Development Council, continues to work toward its dual goals of getting Hawaii's unemployed residents back to work and improving the workforce skills of employed workers. The appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs will enhance early learning initiatives and hence improve the quality of our workforce in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB1084 SD1HD1.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BARBARA A. KRIEG
DIRECTOR

LEILA A. KAGAWA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

April 1, 2013

**TESTIMONY TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

For Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2013
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

BY

BARBARA A. KRIEG
DIRECTOR

Senate Bill No. 1084 Senate Draft 1 House Draft 1
Relating to Early Childhood Education/Constitutional Amendment

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TO CHAIRPERSON SYLVIA LUKE AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. 1084 S.D. 1 H.D.1. The measure proposes an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

The Department of Human Resources Development strongly supports this bill. We believe the proposed constitutional amendment will provide for a better prepared workforce for the State of Hawai'i.

Keiki who have access to early childhood education programs are better prepared for their continuing education and have a lower incarceration rate. Both of these achievements will help maximize the quality of our future workforce, whether with

the State of Hawai'i or in the private sector.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support on S.B.
1084 S.D. 1 H.D. 1.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

KEITH M. KANESHIRO
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

ARMINA A. CHING
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



**THE HONORABLE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaiʻi**

April 2, 2013

RE: S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1; PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

RE: S.B. 1093, S.D. 2, H.D. 1; RELATING TO SCHOOL READINESS.

RE: S.B. 1095, S.D. 2, H.D. 1; RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and members of the House Committee on Finance, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in support of S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1; S.B. 1093, S.D. 2, H.D. 1; and S.B. 1095, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

These measures establish public early childhood education programs and supports private early childhood education programs as well.

While the Department's primary role is to prosecute juvenile and criminal cases within the justice system, our overarching focus is on public safety for the community, and that starts with prevention and education. As such, the Department strongly supports the development and implementation of early childhood education programs in Hawaii.

According to the HighScope Perry Preschool study that was conducted over 4 decades by the late David P. Weikart, founder of the HighScope Educational Research Foundation; Larry Schweinhart, HighScope's current president; and their colleagues, the effects of high-quality early care and education on low-income three- and four-year-olds shows that adults at age 40 who participated in a preschool program in their early years have higher earnings, are more likely to hold a job, have committed fewer crimes, and are more likely to have graduated from high school.

Overall, the study documented a return to society of more than \$16 for every tax dollar invested in the early care and education program.

One of the reviewers of the study, Nobel-Prize-winning University of Chicago economist James J. Heckman, said, "This report substantially bolsters the case for early interventions in disadvantaged populations. More than 35 years after they received an enriched preschool program, the Perry Preschool participants achieve much greater success in social and economic life than their counterparts who are randomly denied treatment."

Among the study's major findings in the crime prevention areas are:

- The group who received high-quality early education had significantly fewer arrests than the non-program group (36% vs. 55% arrested five times or more); and
- Significantly fewer members of the group who received high-quality early care than the non-program group were ever arrested for violent crimes (32% vs. 48%), property crimes (36% vs. 58%), or drug crimes (14% vs. 34%).

For the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu strongly supports S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1; S.B. 1093, S.D. 2, H.D. 1; and S.B. 1095, S.D. 2, H.D. 1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony presented before the
House Committee on Finance

April 2, 2013 at 2:00 pm

By Linda K. Johnsrud

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost, University of Hawai'i System

**SB 1084 SD1 HD1 – PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF
THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE
APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the House
Committee on Finance:

The University of Hawai'i supports SB 1084 SD1 HD1 that proposes an amendment to
Article X, Section 1, of the Hawai'i State Constitution.

The University of Hawai'i recognizes the critical importance of early childhood education
to lifetime development. Hawai'i must expand the number of children in the state who
have access to high quality early childhood education programs, and the state's
Department of the Attorney General has deemed that a constitutional amendment is
necessary to advance this goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Testimony presented before the
House Committee on Finance
April 2, 2013 at 2:00 pm
By Karen C. Lee, Ed.D.
Executive Director, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education

SB 1084, SD1, HD1: Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood Education Programs

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

SB 1084, SD1, HD1 proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, as provided by law, to help the State meet its goal to provide a state-funded early learning system for the keiki of Hawaii, prior to entering kindergarten.

Hawaii P-20 supports this bill. In order for the State to create a high-quality early learning system, it must utilize existing resources and services already delivered through private educational programs across the state. Our keiki must have pre-kindergarten learning experiences that adequately and appropriately prepare them for their next stage of education. It is not enough that our children are provided child care services; they must be given the opportunity to be ready – academically, socially and emotionally – for kindergarten. However, the Office of the Attorney General has opined that a Constitutional amendment is necessary to permit the use of public funds for private education programs. Without this amendment, we will not be able to reach a significant percentage of the population that needs every chance of success in school.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Hawaii P-20

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Office: 808-956-3879 | Fax: 808-956-8037

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TESTIMONY OF TRUSTEE DANIEL C. AHUNA III

SB 1084 SD1 HD1

**PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE
HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF
PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PROGRAMS**

House Committee on Finance

Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 2:00 pm
Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members:

I am Dan Ahuna and I testify today in support of SB 1084 SD1 HD1. My support today is in my capacity as an individual member of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Board of Trustees, representing Kaua'i and Ni'ihau.

This bill would enable the State to provide a statewide early learning system for children. Together with SB 1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1, the other two bills on this agenda, these are the components necessary to establish a high-quality early learning system for the future of Hawai'i – our keiki.

As a former teacher and charter school leader, I know how important it is to lay a solid foundation so that our youth will have every opportunity afforded to them for success later in life. In education, that means access to early childhood education before kindergarten. Doing so better prepares keiki for the academic, social, and cultural rigors they will face throughout their academic career and in life.

According to research, a child who is not prepared for kindergarten prior to entry is more likely to end up in the criminal justice system as an adult. In my own work with adjudicated youth, I know this to be true. OHA's own research study has also shown that our Native Hawaiian beneficiaries, who are 24 percent of the general population, comprise 39 percent of incarcerated individuals. This is especially concerning in light of data that shows in some districts, almost 60 percent of Native Hawaiian children did not attend preschool before entry into kindergarten. Quite simply, we are falling short in getting our keiki off to a good start, and our Native Hawaiian keiki in particular.

In order for us to address this growing problem, it is imperative that we change the current system by investing in our keiki and the future of Hawai'i nei. Therefore, I again urge you to pass SB 1084 SD1 HD1.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

91-1841 Fort Weaver Road
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96706
Phone 808.681.3500
Fax 808.681.5280
Email cfs@cfs-hawaii.org
www.childandfamilyservice.org

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United Way

Maui United Way

Kauai United Way



April 2, 2013

Testimony on SB1084 **Constitutional Amendment**

House Committee on Finance

Tuesday, April 2, 2013, State Capitol, Room 308, 2:00 p.m.

Dear Chair Rep. Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Rep. Aaron Johanson and Committee members,

I am Howard S. Garval, President and Chief Executive Officer of Child & Family Service, Hawaii's oldest human services nonprofit organization whose mission is **strengthening families and fostering the healthy development of children.**

I am writing in support of SB1084 that proposes a constitutional amendment which is necessary because currently the Hawaii State Constitution does not allow for benefits to be provided to private schools for educational purposes. The Attorney General has advised that a Constitutional Amendment would be needed so that the private sector, where capacity and expertise lie, can deliver services that incorporate higher-quality, education-focused standards to produce the successful outcomes for our keiki. Legislature approval is needed for this amendment to the Constitution that could then ensure that it would appear on the 2014 election ballot for ratification by voters. This ratification is needed to implement the high-quality early education program proposed in SB1095. This focus on quality and outcomes is essential to establish a solid foundation for success for our keiki in school and beyond.

The best investment we can make in our community is on the front end; i.e. from birth to five so that children enter school safe, healthy and ready to learn. The Governor's appointment of an Early Childhood Coordinator was an important step in this direction and establishing an Executive Office on Early Learning was also an important next step that will ensure that services for young children are coordinated across state departments.

The science of brain development and the economic ROI of \$4.20 return for every \$1 invested in early childhood are well documented. Hawaii is one of only 11 states without a state funded pre-school. It is time that Hawaii becomes a leader in taking care of our keiki and ensuring that they get off to the right start being safe, healthy and ready to learn when they enter kindergarten. This bill along with other measures proposed in this legislative session will help Hawaii get there.

I urge your support of this legislation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Our Mission: Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:25 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: aicorrea@juno.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aileen Correa | HSTA | Oppose | No |

Comments: Before using state education dollars to fund non-DOE and non-state institutions, why doesn't the State of Hawaii make Kindergarten mandatory for all five year olds? Let's work on providing educational opportunities and requiring all five year olds to be in school, instead of skipping over them to the four year olds. Aloha from Hawaii Island, Aileen Correa

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 2:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

**RE: SB 1084, SD1 HD1– PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO
ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE
CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF
PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 1084, SD1 HD1– Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood Education Programs.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing over 1000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the “Voice of Business” in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state’s economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber believes that this measure must be in place to provide services to the gap group that will result from the 2014 change in kindergarten entry age (children must be five years old by July 31 of the school year to enroll in DOE kindergarten) mandated by Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012. DOE estimates there are 5,100 children in the gap. It is critical that immediate action is taken to make sure these children are covered.

Also, the Chamber strongly believes that focusing on early childhood is critical because brain development takes place by age five. We believe it’s imperative to begin investing early in a child’s life, when the brain is in this state of tremendous growth potential. In 2008, the Hawaii Economic Benefits Study of early education for Hawai‘i showed that for every \$1 Hawai‘i invests in a quality four-year early learning program, the state will receive a return of \$4.20. This is not only about return of investment but in providing for our employees and their children.

We understand that this is necessary to enact the program functions for the new early learning system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII BAPTIST EARLY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
2042 VANCOUVER DRIVE HONOLULU, HI 96822

March 12, 2013

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance
Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

My name is Rebecca McGuire and I formally represent the Hawaii Baptist Early Education Association. We are an association of 19 Baptist preschools across four islands and we serve approximately 1,000 children. As the faith-based representative to the DHS Child care advisory board, I also informally represent many of the faith-based preschools around the state.

The Hawaii Baptist Early Education Association is providing comments on Senate Bills 1084, 1093 and 1095.

We are in support of a bill that allows inclusiveness of the faith-based preschool community to establish services to the gap group resulting from the 2014 change in kindergarten entry age, beginning school year 2014-2015.

The opportunity for Private Faith-Based preschools to participate without guidelines that compromise the tenets of our Faith is a necessary component to be in place before Faith-based preschools are able and willing to participate. Private Faith-based schools comprise approximately 50% of the private preschool community and comprise over 50% of the needed capacity to provide spaces for these children. We believe this will be of concern to parents that want to be able to choose their child's school based on principles of belief that are important to them. We are advocates of the right of these parents to be able to choose a school that meets these needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony of Senate Bills 1084, 1093 and 1095.

Rebecca McGuire, President
Hawaii Baptist Early Education Association
Director, Olivet Baptist Preschool



55 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH

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808-535-7401
www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

Tuesday, April 2, 2013 – 2:00 pm
Conference Room 308

The House Committee on Finance

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Representative Aaron Johanson, Vice Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA

Re: **SB 1084 SD1, HD1 Proposing An Amendment To Article X, Section 1 Of The Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early Childhood Education Programs**

Testimony in Support

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawaii'i Pacific Health (HPH). HPH is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital on Kauai. HPH is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics and service sites, more than 5,400 employees and 1,300 physicians on staff.

HPH fully supports the creation within the early learning system an early childhood education program. We employ thousands of graduates of Hawaii's public school system, and helping children, beginning at an early age is the key to making them successful citizens in our businesses and in our community. Our ability to compete in a global economy starts with employees who have been provided the tools to do so and it all begins at a very early age.

We also believe strongly that focusing on early childhood is critical because development of the architecture of the brain takes place by age five. We need to begin investing early in a child's life, when the brain is in this state of tremendous growth potential. By the time children enter kindergarten, elementary school and high school we are addressing problems and no longer preventing them.

As business people we understand the high return on investing in children under the age of five which has been well documented nationally and locally. In 2008, the Hawaii Economic Benefits Study of early education for Hawai'i showed that for every \$1 Hawai'i invests in a quality four-year early learning program, the state will receive a return of \$4.20. This return is calculated from less spending on special education, grade retention, and future social services –such as incarceration - plus a more productive, higher paid workforce contributing positively to the state economy.

Hawaii remains one of only eleven states that provide no significant state funding for early childhood education. This coupled with nearly 43% of our students not having received preschool upon entering Kindergarten means that our Department of Education System must devote time and resources to bringing these children to the level of their counterparts who have had some form of school readiness



Affiliates of Hawaii'i Pacific Health

program. We cannot, as a state, continue on this path if we hope to produce the workforce that will lead us into the ever more competitive, and complex 21st century.

We strongly support the public/private delivery system contemplated by the legislation. As previous People's Pulse polls have shown, over 80% of Hawaii's residents believe in the importance of funding of early learning. We understand that the Constitutional Amendment is necessary to allow for a quality public/private early childhood education delivery system that would incorporate higher-quality, education focused standards to make a difference in the lives of our young children. We therefore believe it is critical that this bill go forward and allow the voters to express themselves and their support for our children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Testimony of Cindy McMillan
The Pacific Resource Partnership

House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

SB 1084, SD1, HD1 – Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the State
Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood
Education

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

2:00 pm

Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Committee:

The Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters.

PRP supports SB 1084, SD1, HD1 which proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, subject to non-discrimination provisions, as provided by law.

PRP supports this bill because we believe that every child should be given the opportunity to succeed. Too many of our children are entering school without the basics needed to succeed. More specifically, many children whose parents work in one or more low-income jobs are unable to attend pre-school programs. Consequently, through no fault of their own or their parents, these kids can't keep up when they get to school. The achievement gap begins to be seen early, and it is difficult for our public schools to make up such a serious gap.

The proposed Constitutional Amendment, if approved by voters, would provide high-quality early learning for our keiki. This will have immediate and long-term benefits for the children participating in such programs and for the communities in which they will ultimately live and work. Local studies indicate that every \$1 invested in early learning generates \$4.20 in future savings and increased earnings for Hawaii.

April 2, 2013

Testimony Supporting SD 1084, SD1, HD1 – Proposing a Constitutional Amendment

Page 2

PRP believes this proposed public/private delivery system is needed to invest in our keiki – and our state's – future. We believe that it will benefit low-income kids by narrowing the education achievement gap and providing them with opportunities to be successful in school and in the workplace.

PRP strongly supports our public schools and believes this proposed amendment would not negatively impact the resources needed to provide quality public education.

We respectfully ask for your committee to approve SB 1084, SD1, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this important matter with you.



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Legislative Director

**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 1084, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT
1, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE
HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF
PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
PROGRAMS**

**House Committee on Finance
Hon. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Hon. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

Honorable Chair Luke and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 150 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of SB 1084, proposing an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs.

According to the National Institute for Early Education Research, Hawaii is among eleven states lacking a state-funded pre-kindergarten program. In 2014, the state's junior kindergarten program will be eliminated, leaving approximately 5,100 late-born four-year-olds without a public preschool option. Parents of these children will be forced to turn to the private education marketplace to find pre-kindergarten services for their children, at an average cost of \$8,640 per year (or \$720 per month).

According to the Good Beginnings Alliance, the average statewide monthly preschool cost amounts to \$13,680,000. GBA has also put together a sliding funding scale estimating how much money would be needed annually for state-supported 12-month preschool programs for varying percentages of Hawaii's pre-kindergarten population. Their estimates show that 1,2000 children (6.3 percent) can be covered at a cost of \$10,368,000; 5,000 (26.3 percent) at a cost of \$43,200,000; 7,500 (39.4

percent) at a cost of \$64,800,000; and 10,000 (52.6 percent) at a cost of \$86,400,000. Notably, in a 2011 report on income self-sufficiency in Hawaii, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism estimated that for parents to afford licensed care for one child, as well as before- and after-school care for a school-aged child, a Honolulu family of four must earn \$61,900 annually. A single working parent, by comparison, would need to earn \$56,400 per year. Sadly, DBEDT estimates that 27 percent and 77 percent of such families, respectively, fall below the income thresholds necessary for “self-sufficiency.”

Research on the benefits of quality pre-kindergarten programs indicates that for every dollar invested in such opportunities, society saves four to eight dollars on remedial classes, special education, welfare programs, and criminal justice costs. Roughly 85 percent of a child's brain develops from birth to age five, according to modern neuroscience, emphasizing the importance of providing a quality learning environment during these formative years. Following the Governor's lead, we want to highlight that, as of 2011, 42 percent of Hawaii's public school keiki did not attend any form of preschool prior to enrollment in formal education, despite the approximately 420 percent return on investment for every dollar spent on quality early childhood services. As the Department of education continues to streamline educational accountability, particularly through the institution of merit pay and high-stakes evaluations for teachers and educational officers, it is imperative that we do all we can to ensure our children are “classroom ready,” meaning that they are prepared to receive basic instruction and effectively socialize with peers upon entering elementary school, placing both our keiki and their teachers on the path to success.

That said, we urge lawmakers to be vigilant in ensuring that this amendment is not utilized as a predicate for future implementation of private school voucher programs. In the past and in other states, advocates for school vouchers have seized upon any pertinent fiscal reform regarding education to forward their cause, falsely arguing that public funding for any private educational programming, should such programs be deemed successful by future studies, evinces the likely success of educational privatization writ large. We feel that school vouchers would undermine our public education system, the backbone of Hawaii's and the United States' democratic practices, potentially leading to educational discrimination, segregation, and scholastic inequalities that both mirror and exacerbate the socioeconomic disparity of our society. We also encourage your committee to consider the amending the implementation legislation that accompanies this bill (SB 1095) to permit public funds only for secular learning programs, thereby

ensuring that funds appropriated to early childhood education as a result of the proposed amendment do not violate the U.S. Constitution's and Hawaii State Constitution's Establishment Clauses, which bar preferential governmental treatment for religious institutions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Legislative Director
IMUAlliance



*For over 100 years,
preparing children for success*

**2707 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96826**

**Phone: (808) 941-9414
Fax: (808) 946-1468**

www.kcaapreschools.org

ATHERTON - KAILUA
KUAPA - HAWAII KAI
LAURA MORGAN - KAPALAMA HEIGHTS
MOTHER RICE - MOILIILI
MURIEL - KAKAAKO
NA LEI - KALIHI
WAI-KAHALA - KAHALA

April 2, 2013

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
House Committee on Finance

From: Christina Cox, President
KCAA Preschools of Hawaii

Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 1084, SD1, HD1; SB 1093,
SD2, HD1 and SB 1095, SD2 HD1

KCAA Preschools of Hawaii was established in 1895 by the Woman's Board of Missions to serve the children of immigrant workers. We serve over 900 children per year in 7 NAEYC accredited preschools on Oahu. More than 50% of our students are low-income and over 80% go on to attend DOE elementary schools. We manage tuition subsidies from 7 different sources, each with its own set of requirements. We have a \$7 million annual operating budget with 130 employees. KCAA has just completed the construction of a \$3.2 million professional development center for early educators, Hawaii's first! It is located on our Mother Rice property in Moiliili. The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Early Education and Development is funded exclusively by private businesses and Hawaii's dedicated philanthropic community. KCAA's Board was instrumental in this effort and is committed to working with the early childhood community to increase the number of qualified teachers, to improve their practice and to improve outcomes for Hawaii's *keiki*.

Please note that while I presently serve as the center-based program provider representative on the Early Learning Advisory Board and also serve as the Liaison for the Childcare Business Coalition of Hawaii which represents more than 60 centers throughout the State I am testifying today as the President of KCAA Preschools of Hawaii, a position that I have held for the past 12 years.

So much has changed during my 30 years working in the field of early education in Hawaii. It used to be that having teachers who genuinely enjoyed working with young children and who possessed a joy of learning, a natural curiosity about the world and were willing to share that with the children in their care, was enough. We now need to be sure that our teachers possess not only those important characteristics, but also the knowledge and skills required to help our children compete in the 21st Century.

Many of us in the early education community have been working towards the establishment of a public-private early learning system for over 20 years. We have worked on multiple legislative initiatives together. This time seems to be different; all of the pieces are in place.



We have a Governor who has made early childhood development and education a top priority, we have the support of both the philanthropic and business communities and we have seasoned legislators who possess a deep understanding of the issue and who are committed to working together with the broader community to create a better future for our youngest citizens.

As we are all well aware, Hawaii is one of only 11 states that have no formal state-funded preschool program. With the passage of these bills, Hawaii would position itself to benefit from matching federal funds that would be made available to states with state-funded preschool programs as part of President Obama's proposed plan for early education.

We will need to pay special attention to the nuts and bolts of Hawaii's program design if it is to be economically viable for the State and to achieve its intended goals. The program should have achievable program standards, and provide programs with adequate resources, both human and financial, to succeed.

There are a number of examples of successful public-private state-funded pre-k programs across the country and in particular, in Georgia, North Carolina and New York, that we can learn from. Each has been operating successfully with a public-private model for some time and each has components that are worth giving serious consideration as we work with the Executive Office on Early Learning to design our system.

It will be important that all programs, regardless of setting, be held to the same program quality standards, in particular as they relate to teacher training and education levels, class group size/ ratio and curriculum and assessment/program evaluation. Each of these program elements significantly impact quality as well as affordability.

Eligibility criteria, including income levels and subsidy rates which will be used as the basis for determining each child's level of funding will also be a key determinant as to the economic viability of participation for all providers.

When all is said and done we need to join together, to find some common ground and to see our children as an investment rather an expense. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Girl Scouts of Hawai'i
410 Atkinson Drive
Suite 2E1, Box 3
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808-595-8400
girlscouts-hawaii.org

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Gail Mukaihata Hannemann
Chief Executive Officer
Ivy Mixter Vinayaga
Chief Financial Officer

April 2, 2013

2:00 p.m.

Room 308 – Hawai'i State Capitol

TESTIMONY TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and members of the Finance Committee,

My name is Gail Mukaihata Hannemann and I am the Chief Executive Officer of the Girl Scouts of Hawai'i. Founded in 1917, the Girl Scouts of Hawai'i is the state's oldest and largest leadership development program for girls with a statewide membership of 5,500 girls and adults.

The measures you are considering today, Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they need for healthy development. As you already know, many studies prove that high-quality early childhood education programs not only result in short- and long-term benefits for children but greatly enrich the quality of life for their families, communities and society as a whole.

In our work with girls in kindergarten through twelfth grades, we know firsthand the importance of providing all children, regardless of their families' personal circumstances, with the type of learning experiences that these three bills seek to provide and make accessible to our younger keiki. Combined, these three bills speak volumes about what is important to the people of Hawai'i - our keiki and 'ohana. The bills not only seek to support the development and growth of our young children but also recognize the challenges and barriers that families often face as they provide for their children.

I am certain you will all agree that every child deserves the opportunity to reach his or her fullest potential. Critical to achieving this most basic human aspiration is to engage children from birth in ways that best develop their brains so they can combine their natural talents and abilities with the skills they learn to make positive differences in their lives and the world. While there is much work to be done, the passage of these bills will move us in the right direction.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place

Testimony on SB1084 SD1 HD1 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1,
OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC
FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Finance

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

2:00 PM, State Capitol Conference Room 308

COMMENT on the INTENT of SB1084 SD1 HD1

By LYNN HAMMONDS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

April 1, 2013

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board strongly supports early childhood education. The HTSB also believes early childhood teachers should be properly trained and licensed in the field.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



April 2, 2013
2:00 p.m.; Agenda #1
Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE

RE: SB 1084 SD1 HD1 – Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood Education Programs

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and members of the committee,

My name is Robert Witt and I am executive director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents 99 private and independent schools in Hawaii and educates over 33,000 students statewide.

HAIS supports SB1084 SD1 HD1 which proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, as provided by law, to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

The Executive Office on Early Learning has developed a blueprint for a statewide early childhood education program which will ensure that our children enter kindergarten having had a quality preschool experience. This will eliminate the possible lack of school entry requirements or negative school success. This will particularly be advantageous for at-risk children, who are particularly affected by the lack of ability and access to quality early learning programs. However, for the “blueprint” to succeed, partnerships with the private sector must be forged in order to ensure high quality standards and meet capacity needs. Furthermore, the Attorney General indicates that we need a Constitutional amendment to allow public funds to be given to private early education programs.

Thus, we urge you to approve this bill which would result in an amendment appearing on the 2014 election ballot to be ratified by state voters. **We would also respectfully request that you amend the measure to insert the correct effective date.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@hawaiiifamilyforum.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Allen Cardines, Jr. | Hawaii Family Forum | Comments Only | Yes |

Comments: Support INTENT of CONAM SB 1084 SD1 HD1

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jedill@pidfoundation.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM*

SB1084

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Jan E. Hanohano Dill - President | Partners In Development Foundation | Support | No |

Comments:

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Testimony in Support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095

House Committee on Finance

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Conference Room 308

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and members of the FIN Committee:

On behalf of the Young Democrats of Hawaii, I am writing to ask for your support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095, which will collectively expand access to early childhood education for our state's keiki. As Young Democrats between the ages of 18 and 36, many of our members are, or soon will be raising children. Access to and affordability of childhood education is, therefore, an important issue to our membership and their families.

We believe that the establishment of a state-funded four-year old preschool program is a key component of ensuring that our youngest children are prepared to succeed in our elementary, middle, and high schools, and beyond.

Studies have shown that high-quality early education has a powerful impact on our youngest keiki. Early education is proven to:

- Improve skills such as communication, problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking needed to be successful in life;
- Ensure that any need for special services can be identified and established earlier in a child's life;
- Increase the number of children prepared for kindergarten and graduating from high school;
- Increase chances of entering and completing college and other forms of higher education; and
- Increase lifetime earnings, develop a better-skilled workforce, and create a stronger economy.

Because of the strong benefits of early childhood education for our children and their families, the Young Democrats of Hawaii strongly urges you to support Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095.

With Aloha,


Francis H. Choe
President

The Young Democrats of Hawaii represent over 1500 registered Young Democrats, between the ages of 16 and 35. We strive to stimulate in young people an active interest in governmental affairs, promote their involvement in the political process, increase the political strength of young people, and provide the highest degree of social justice and equal opportunity for Hawaii's people.

www.ydhi.org | www.facebook.com/YoungDemsHI | [@YoungDemsHI](https://twitter.com/YoungDemsHI)



1003 Bishop Street • Pauahi Tower • Suite 2630 • Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: (808) 532-2244 • Fax: (808) 545-2025

Testimony to the House Committee on Finance

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 308

RE: PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS. – SENATE BILL 1084 SD1 HD1

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Kai and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable. We support Senate Bill 1084 SD1 HD1 that proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, as provided by law, to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

We fully support the creation within the early learning system an early childhood education program. The members of the Hawaii Business Roundtable employ thousands of graduates of Hawaii's public school system, and helping children, beginning at an early age is the key to making them successful citizens in our businesses and in our community. Our ability to compete in a global economy starts with employees who have been provided the tools to do so and it all begins at a very early age.

We also believe strongly that focusing on early childhood is critical because development of the architecture of the brain takes place by age five. We need to begin investing early in a child's life, when the brain is in this state of tremendous growth potential. By the time children enter kindergarten, elementary school and high school we are addressing problems and no longer preventing them.

As business people our members understand the high return on investing in children under the age of five which has been well documented nationally and locally. In 2008, the Hawaii Economic Benefits Study of early education for Hawai'i showed that for every \$1 Hawai'i invests in a quality four-year early learning program, the state will receive a return of \$4.20. This return is calculated from less spending on special education, grade retention, and

future social services –such as incarceration - plus a more productive, higher paid workforce contributing positively to the state economy.

More importantly, our members are concerned about their employees and their families. They believe that every child should be given the opportunity to succeed and success is easier to create with early childhood programs that provide them with a quality education.

We strongly support the public/private delivery system contemplated by the legislation. As previous People's Pulse polls have shown, over 80% of Hawaii's residents believe in the importance of funding of early learning. We understand that the Constitutional Amendment is necessary to allow for a quality public/private early childhood education delivery system that would incorporate higher-quality, education focused standards to make a difference in the lives of our young children. We therefore believe it is critical that this bill go forward and allow the voters to express themselves and their support for our children.

We believe that we are at a critical juncture for our youngest of children. Many of our members themselves are part of the Be My Voice Campaign and the Hawaii Business Roundtable fully supports the Be My Voice Campaign which will help to provide a stronger future for our keikis.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify and we look forward to joining your efforts to improve the lives of our children.

Gary K. Kai, Executive Director
Hawaii Business Roundtable



FATIH BASED EARLY LEARNING COALITION

April 1, 2013

To: Representative: Sylvia Luke, Chairperson
Representative: Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chairperson
House Committee on Finance

Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 2:00 PM

RE: SUPPORT WITH STRONG RESERVATIONS
SB 1084 SD1 HD1, SB 1093 SD2 HD1, SB 1095 SD2 HD1
“Relating to Early Childhood Education” and “School Readiness”

Thank you for allowing us to submit testimony regarding Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. We represent the “Faith Base Early Learning Coalition”. The faith base preschools represent approximately 50% of all the preschools in Hawaii. We provide families an option to freely express and share their values and beliefs in an environment in which they are comfortably chosen.

As you are aware, early childhood education is vital in young children and is a necessity in preparation for a “lifetime of learning.” Formal quality early education for young children provides social, cognitive, spiritual, and physical development which serves as learning tools to equip children to be productive future citizens in their communities. As encouragers of early education and representatives of faith based early learning education, we are in support of the **Senate Bills 1084, 1093 and 1095 with STRONG RESERVATIONS.** We desire the opportunity to serve the early education community with the FREEDOM to express our faith while participating in proposed Senate Bills 1093 and 1095: “Relating to Early Childhood Education and School Readiness”.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit our testimony.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Bortfeld, Director
Angela Calhoun, Director
Marie Hook, Director

The Toddler Program
All God’s Children Preschool-Molokai
Central Union Preschool

Dale Faulkner, Director
Kathryn Nishie, Director
Missy Cabudol, Director
Tamwat Shiuking, Director
Toni Respicio, Director
Sayako Yamaguchi, Director
Kalei DeMello, Director
Joy Addiss, Director
Cassie Tolentio, Director
Wailani Robins, Director
Jennifer Bryant, Director
Marilyn Payapaya, Director
Fudge Fajardo, Director
Nancy Moore, Director
Rebecca McGuire, Director
Katie Mullis, Director
Danette Abe, Director
CinDee Enos, Principal
Marcia Arakawa, Director
Cindy Olaso, Principal
Kay Hishinuma, Principal
Catherine Awong, Director
Helena Ogle, Director
Jessica Corliss, Director
Kimberly Inafuku, Director

Mililani Missionary Preschool
Christian Academy
Good Samaritan Preschool
Good Shepherd Preschool
Haleiwa Baptist Preschool
Calvary Chapel West Oahu Preschool
Holy Family Early Center
Kalihi Union Church Preschool
Kapahulu Bible Preschool
Kawaiihao School
Ke Aloha Ho'okahi Preschool
Manoa Valley Church Preschool
Mililani Baptist Preschool
Pali Preschool
Olivet Baptist Preschool
Pali View Baptist Preschool
Waialae Baptist Preschool
Waolani Judd Nazarene School
Grace Fellowship Christian's Center
Our Lady of Good Counsel
Windward Nazarene Academy
St. John's Catholic Preschool
First United Methodist Church Preschool
Makakilo Baptist Preschool
Palisades Baptist Preschool

Hawai'i Construction Alliance

P.O. Box 179441
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 348-8885

April 1, 2013

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the committee:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance strongly supports investing in early childhood education, and supports SB1084 SD1 HD1.

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Hawai'i Masons Union, Local 1 and Local 630; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local 3. Together, the four member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent over 15,000 working men and women in the four basic crafts of Hawaii's construction industry.

Hawai'i is one of just eleven states that does not provide for a state-supported preschool system. As a result, many of our keiki are entering kindergarten without essential reading, math, and critical-thinking skills. Investing in a high-quality early education program for our state's four-year olds is an important step toward ensuring that all of our students enter our classrooms ready to learn – intellectually, socially, physically, and emotionally.

In the short term, investments in early childhood education will immediately generate positive economic impacts: parents who would otherwise be at home caring for young children can re-enter the workforce; preschools will employ more teachers and purchase more goods and services; and our public school system will become stronger and more effective as better-prepared students enter our kindergartens and elementary schools.

In the long term, these investments will result in a more employable, educated, and efficient workforce in all sectors of the economy. Children who received a quality early education are more likely to be high school graduates, hold productive jobs, earn higher salaries, be financially secure, and own their own home.

The high cost of preschool – currently estimated at \$720 per month in Honolulu – is a significant burden for our members and their families during these difficult economic times. Over the past several years, preschool attendance in the state’s working-class and lower-income neighborhoods has dropped dramatically. Greater support for early childhood education will help to address the issues of access and affordability which often prevent families from being able to send their children to high-quality preschool programs.

We believe that expansion of our early childhood education programs will have profoundly positive benefits for our members, their families, and for our entire state now and in the future.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tyler Dos Santos-Tam". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tyler" being the most prominent.

Tyler Dos Santos-Tam
Executive Director
Hawai‘i Construction Alliance
execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org



April 1, 2013

To: Chair Sylvia Luke
Vice-Chair Scott Nishimoto
Members of the House Committee on Finance

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director
Good Beginnings Alliance

RE: Comments in support of SB 1095 SD2 HD1: Relating to Early Childhood Education; SB 1084 SD1 HD1: Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood Education Programs.

The Good Beginnings Alliance is in support of SB 1095 SD2 HD1: Relating to Early Childhood Education and SB 1084 SD1 HD1: Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood Education Programs. The Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA) is a policy and advocacy organization focused on ensuring that Hawaii's young children are healthy, safe, and ready for school. We strive to support our stakeholder community to this end, as well as provide relevant information to our families and fellow advocate community. The GBA has over a decade of experience in advocacy and service to our youngest and their families.

Last year the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, legislation creating the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL)(Act 178; 2012). That measure also called for the termination of the existing Department of Education's Junior Kindergarten program starting in the 2014-2015 school year; a pre-Kindergarten program available to late-born four-year-olds that currently serves over 5,000 children statewide.

SB 1095 SD2 HD1, would provide crucial direction in the creation of Hawaii's early childhood education program by:

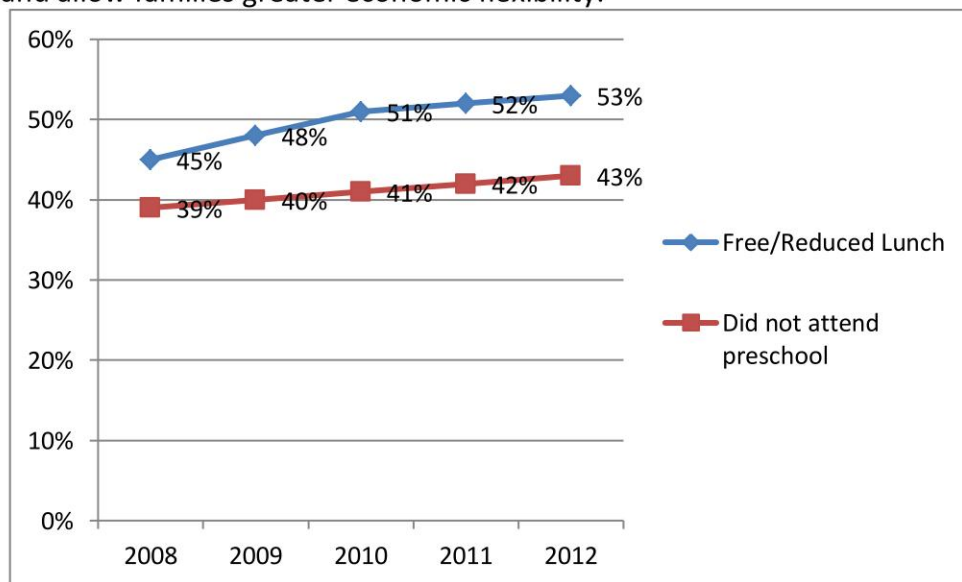
- Ensuring parent choice in selecting a school readiness program that best serves the child.
- Investing in our existing, and future, early learning/school readiness providers.
- Prioritizing both underserved and at-risk children.
- Providing assistance for middle-income, 'gap group', families of four year olds.

- Tasking the EOEL with developing and adopting standards for participating programs that will ensure qualified instruction and data collection.

By providing the EOEL authority to direct the State's Early Childhood Education Program, we hope that they will take great effort to ensure that a range of providers are allowed to participate in the program, including center-based, school-based, family-child interaction learning programs, and family child care homes. By ensuring this breadth of service we can guarantee service to a greater number of families across our state. Including different types of providers can also address the need to increase the capacity that can be expected with the implementation of the new school readiness program.

Hawaii is one of only eleven states providing no significant state funding for early childhood education programs. This coupled with nearly 43% of our students not having received preschool upon entering Kindergarten means that our Department of Education (DOE) system must devote time and resources to bringing these children up to speed with their counterparts who have received some form of school readiness programing.

It should be noted that over the past four years our state has seen a decrease in the number of children entering Kindergarten having had preschool, and at the same time we see an increase in the number of students receiving free/reduced lunch. Providing the extra support to families in order to send their four-year-olds to a school readiness program will hopefully help address this trend and allow families greater economic flexibility.



1. 43% of students did not attend preschool prior to entering the HDOE system in the 2012-2013 school year. This percentage has steadily declined annually by 1% from 2008 to 2012 (HSSRA 2012-2013).
2. 53% of students received Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL) in the 2012-2013 school year. This is an increase of 1% when comparing to the previous school year.

Investing in a quality early childhood education program positions Hawaii to gain from federal matching funds that may become available as a result of the Obama Administration's new initiative to provide high-quality preschool for low- and middle-class families. The Administration just last week provided details of their budget proposal which calls for another round Early Learning Challenge funding for FY13 – Hawaii must be ready to demonstrate our commitment to early learning in order to compete for these funds.

We also see the critical mass of public and private support focused on this effort like never before. A June 2012 Ward Research Poll commissioned by the Good Beginnings Alliance and the Be My Voice Hawaii campaign showed that 75% of registered voters surveyed supported some form of state supported preschool program for all four-year-olds, and nearly 50% supported some form of new revenue specifically dedicated for this purpose.

Members of the business, philanthropic, labor, and education community have also demonstrated a commitment to working together to build an early learning system that provides our keiki with the educational edge to compete with their counterparts in other states on the mainland. As the recent 'Power of Preschool' publication in the January 2013 issue of *Hawaii Business Magazine* indicated, employers see a strong state supported preschool system as a key mechanism for creating the future workforce that the state depends on, as well as a way to attract new businesses to our island economy.

GBA supports SB 1095 SD2 HD1, and SB 1084 SD1 HD1, as the first steps toward bringing about the ultimate goal of a high quality early childhood education program that will serve all of Hawaii's four-year- old children.



Committee: Committee on Finance
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 2:00 pm
Place: Room 308
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii with Comments on SB 1084, SD 1, HD 1 (Proposing a Constitutional Amendment to Article X, Section 1)

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") offers comments on SB 1084, SD 1, HD 1, which proposes an amendment to Article X, Section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit public funding for private early childhood education programs.

Article X, Section 1 of Hawaii's Constitution currently prohibits public funding of "any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution." SB 1084, SD 1, HD 1 would permit appropriation of public funds for "private early childhood education programs." Thus, an amendment to the Hawaii State Constitution is clearly necessary for the implementation of early education programs with private providers.

Additionally, as set forth in House Standing Committee Report 978, the Committee on Education proposed changes via the HD 1 to ensure that the public funding of private early childhood education programs would be subject to the "same anti-discrimination requirements as public educational institutions" (*see id.* at p. 3, discussing amendment 1). The ACLU suggests that the language of SB 1084, SD 1, HD 1 be modified as follows to clarify that purpose:

- Page 1, line 4: insert ", non-sectarian" before early education;
- Page 2, line 3: insert ", non-sectarian" before early education:
- Page 2, lines 3-4: delete " subject to the non-discrimination provision above, as provided by law," and insert "that shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, or ancestry"

I am on the mainland this week and unable to attend the hearing in person. Please feel free to contact me via phone or email if I may be of further assistance.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801
T: 808-522-5900
F: 808-522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on
Finance
April 2, 2013
Page 2 of 2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Lois K. Perrin
Legal Director
ACLU of Hawaii

The American Civil Liberties Union ("ACLU") is our nation's guardian of liberty – working daily in courts, legislatures and communities to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties that the Constitution and laws of the United States guarantee everyone in this country.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
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TERESA VAST

Early Care & Education Planning • Policy Research • Program & System Development

April 2, 2013

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair;
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair;
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice-Chair; and
Members, House Committee on Finance

FROM: Teresa Vast, Early Childhood Policy Consultant

SUBJECT:

- S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, *Proposing An Amendment to Article X, Section 1 of The Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early Childhood Education Programs*
- S.B. 1093 S.D. 2, H.D. 1, *Relating to School Readiness*
- S.B. 1095 S.D. 2, H.D. 1, *Relating to Early Childhood Education*

Aloha Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of all three early childhood and school readiness measures under consideration today and also offer suggestions to improve them. As a private citizen and independent early childhood policy consultant, I urge you to pass these bills. They are critical to establishing an early learning system in Hawaii that broadens access to high-quality early education programs to all of our keiki and provides them with a strong foundation and opportunities that will support their success in school and beyond. These bills are about investing in Hawaii's future.

Poll after public poll as well as prior testimony on these bills have demonstrated overwhelming public support for state-funded preschool opportunities. Why? Because there is no longer any doubt that high-quality early education programs are effective. They not only make economic sense with their high return on investment, they also make "human sense." Children who participate in high-quality early learning programs are far more likely to succeed and become contributing members of the community. It is time for Hawaii, like the majority of states, to invest in its most precious resource – its children, the future leaders of our state, nation, and world.

The passage of these three bills is a commitment to Hawaii's future. I recommend two important revisions to strengthen these bills:

S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

The passage of the constitutional amendment is essential in order to partner with private early learning programs so our keiki will have access to high-quality early education in the year prior to kindergarten. Nearly all states with pre-kindergarten programs utilize a mixed delivery system consisting of private programs and public preschool options. States recognize that private programs fulfill a public purpose in providing early education services that are not always available in public schools.

I am concerned that the question to be printed on the ballot, however, is vulnerable to defeat because it obscures the intent of the amendment and will likely confuse voters. As it currently reads, the proposed constitutional amendment proposes using public money to support or benefit private programs. The key point of the proposed amendment is that public funds are intended to benefit

and support young children, not programs. Private early education programs have the capacity to deliver that benefit – they serve a public purpose.

Here is one idea for a revision of the question in the current bill:

"Shall the appropriation of public funds to private early childhood education programs that shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex or ancestry, be permitted to make early education opportunities available to young children prior to kindergarten entry, as provided by law?"

Voters deserve to have a clear idea of the true purpose for the proposed amendment. Please consider the voters and reword the question to clarify the intent of the amendment. Finally, please revise the effective date so the constitutional amendment can take effect upon its passage.

S.B. 1093 S.D. 2, H.D. 1

The proposed school readiness program is a crucial step in the development of Hawaii's early learning system. It provides keiki with access to early education opportunities in the year prior to kindergarten, starting with those who will be affected by the change in kindergarten eligibility in 2014. However, the bill provides for a specific limitation on family income that is both unnecessary and potentially exclusionary.

The intent of the bill, I believe, is to expand access to all age-eligible children whose families could not otherwise fully pay for their children to participate in an early learning program in the year prior to kindergarten. This version of the bill requires the insertion, in Section 2 (e), of a specific family income limit (expressed as a percentage of the federal poverty level) for participants in the proposed school readiness program.

I respectfully recommend that any definition of "low- and moderate-income" or a specific cap on income eligibility be addressed in administrative rules rather than in legislation. Administrative rules should identify a valid methodology utilizing economic analyses for determining ability to pay and eligibility for assistance, thereby ensuring access to "school readiness programs" for all of Hawaii's age-eligible keiki, regardless of their families' ability to pay for such programs. Such economic analyses are not static and thus the income eligibility level may change from year to year, requiring changes in statute. For this reason, any income limit is best addressed through a process to be identified in administrative rules for the program, not in statute.

Moreover, the bill already states that low- and moderate-income families shall have priority in the school readiness program and further states that families will share in the cost of the program through a copayment based on need. Therefore, families with no demonstrated financial need would not be assisted, provided that a valid methodology is employed in determining need. To avoid leaving some of the children in the target group without access to preschool, please eliminate Section 2 (e).

Finally, please revise the effective date in Section 5 to "upon approval" so that the planning and implementation of the school readiness program can begin without delay.

In summary, I ask that you seriously consider the issues I have raised about S.B. 1084, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 and S.B. 1093, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 and revise those measures accordingly. **I urge passage of all three early education and school readiness bills before this Committee.** If you should need additional information or clarification of my testimony, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of early learning opportunities for Hawaii's keiki.





HAWAII CATHOLIC CONFERENCE
6301 Pali Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744-5224



ONLINE SUBMITTAL
Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 @ 2:00 p.m.
House Finance Committee, Room #

DATE: March 6, 2013
TO: House Finance Committee
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
FROM: Walter Yoshimitsu, Executive Director, Hawaii Catholic Conference
Dr. Michael Rockers, Superintendent, Hawaii Catholic Schools
RE: **Support Intent** of SB 1084 SD1 HD1 Proposing An Amendment To Article X, Section 1,
Of The Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For
Private Early Childhood Education Programs
Oppose SB 1093 SD2 HD1 Relating to School Readiness
Oppose SB 1095 SD2 HD1 Early Childhood Education

The Hawaii Catholic Schools and the Hawaii Catholic Conference applaud Gov. Neil Abercrombie's desire for a private-public partnership to provide non-compulsory quality pre-school education in Hawaii. Catholic Schools have played a part in educating the youth of Hawaii since 1841. Along with educating over 8,000 students in Kindergarten -12th Grade, we presently operate 23 pre-schools serving over 1,200 children. Our strong commitment to providing these services will not change.

We do, however, have serious concerns about the facilitation and implementation of the Governor's plan once enacted. Our strong reservations are based on the well-known principles which, in general, curtail the public funding of faith-based schools. While we welcome the opportunity to expand our service in the community, we will not do it at the expense of restricting our Catholic identity and message.

The plans set forth by the Governor suggest that faith-based schools, in order to qualify for funds, could, among other things, separate secular and religious curriculums. This "separation" is simply not possible in Hawaii's Catholic schools because religion is an integral part of the educational philosophy and environment. In fact, it is at the very core of each aspect of learning.

Our biggest concern is the unanswered question: Will the plan, if enacted, set up a system whereby private schools that choose to participate directly compete with those who cannot for philosophical reasons? If that becomes the case, will faith-based private schools that already provide a great service to the children and families of our communities have to close their doors?

We believe that there are other ways for the governor to achieve his goals while avoiding the constitutional restrictions on the receipt of public funds. Educational vouchers and tax credits for parents would make private preschools more accessible and affordable while affirming the parents' right to educate their children in the manner that best suits them. We would welcome adding these alternatives to the governor's plan but acknowledge that these options are not part of the current discussion.

Although we support the intent of the proposed legislation, for the reasons we have stated above, we must oppose these bills. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



Vanessa Ott

757 Kinalau Pl., #1704, Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 854-1018

msvott@gmail.com
facebook id: Miz Ott

April 1, 2013

**TESTIMONY RE: SB 1084, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X,
SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE
APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

Hearing Date: Monday, April 2, 2013 – 2:00 PM

To: Members of the House Committee on Finance

Honorable Financial Committee Members,

I support early childhood education. I do not support channel public money into private educational institutions. Therefore, I oppose SB 1084.

Please reverse the trend that promises to weaken our public education system: outsourcing practically everything to private companies, even education itself.

Please support public education and endorse legislation that makes the Department of Education responsible for providing preschool education. Please help provide the funding to do this. Do not funnel our tax dollars into private institutions.

SUPPORT PUBLIC EDUCATION!

OPPOSE SB 1084!

Thank you,

Vanessa Ott
Public Citizen, Taxpayer, Public Education Advocate

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 2:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: hanabay17@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM*

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Beate Arendale | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 6:25 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mhaines26@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM*

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Maria Haines | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: Allen Hanaïke [ahanaïke@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:00 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: HELP OUR KEIKI: Support SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Allen Hanaïke from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Mahalo for helping our Keiki and for hearing testimony regarding Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. Your SUPPORT of these three measures is critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-old keiki are afforded a quality early learning experience. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for all of its citizens - this is a meaningful way o make make that happen at the earliest and most important time in our keikis' life. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year keiki to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for all Hawaii's keiki in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. MAHALO for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of these measures.

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Email 1 (Primary): ahanaïke@gmail.com

First Name: Allen

Last Name: Hanaïke

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: Carl Daeufer [cdaeuffer@lava.net]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095

Carl Daeufer from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: Early Learning Funding – HB 200 HD1 I urge you to please include funding in HB200 HD1 to establish a statewide early learning system that will ultimately help families afford preschool for their four-year-old children. With the scheduled elimination of Junior Kindergarten starting in the 2014-15 school year and Hawaii being one of only 11 states without state assisted preschool, never has funding for early learning been more important for our state. I urge you to please include the requested funding for early learning in the State Budget (HB 200 HD1). Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Dr. Carl J. Daeufer, emeritus Professor of Education retired

University of Hawaii at Manoa

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Email 1 (Primary): cdaeuffer@lava.net

First Name: Carl

Last Name: Daeufer

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96821

FINTestimony

From: Kay Lipps [bumboocha@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 5:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095

Kay Lipps from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because, I know as an Early Childhood Educator and Mom, that a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven, and Early Childhood Educators like me know, that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, and for making preschool a reality for four year olds.

Form Data:

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First Name: Kay

Last Name: Lipps

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: Beth Young [bethpcdc@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Beth Young from Haleiwa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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Email 1 (Primary): bethpcdc@yahoo.com

First Name: Beth

Last Name: Young

City: Haleiwa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96712

FINTestimony

From: Donna Ching [dlching@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:38 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Donna Ching from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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First Name: Donna

Last Name: Ching

City: Honolulu

State: HI

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FINTestimony

From: Angela Thomas [acthomas808@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:44 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Angela Thomas from Kamuela, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because many of our Hawaii Island children do not have the opportunity to attend preschool now - either their families cannot afford it, or there are no programs they can access. A statewide system would begin to provide equity for our families. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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First Name: Angela

Last Name: Thomas

City: Kamuela

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96743

FINTestimony

From: Cynthia Izumi [tamariko@me.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Cynthia Izumi from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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Email 1 (Primary): tamariko@me.com

First Name: Cynthia

Last Name: Izumi

City: Honolulu

State: HI

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FINTestimony

From: Angeline Geldhof [angeline@hawaii Montessori.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:10 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Angeline Geldhof from Waikoloa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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Email 1 (Primary): angeline@hawaii Montessori.org

First Name: Angeline

Last Name: Geldhof

City: Waikoloa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96738

FINTestimony

From: Alana Glass [zaysylandahar@rocketmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 6:16 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Alana Glass from Kihei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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First Name: Alana

Last Name: Glass

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753

FINTestimony

From: Charlene Doi [cntand@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:43 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Charlene Doi from Haiku, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cntand@gmail.com

First Name: Charlene

Last Name: Doi

City: Haiku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96708

FINTestimony

From: Chuck Larson Larson [seagull@aloha.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:09 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Chuck Larson Larson from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): seagull@aloha.com

First Name: Chuck Larson

Last Name: Larson

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Caitlin Hickle [ctimiree@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 2:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Caitlin Hickle from Kihei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ctimiree@yahoo.com

First Name: Caitlin

Last Name: Hickle

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753

FINTestimony

From: Dana Anne Tomonari [dtomonari@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 7:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Dana Anne Tomonari from Waianae, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dtomonari@hotmail.com

First Name: Dana Anne

Last Name: Tomonari

City: Waianae

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792

FINTestimony

From: Dan S. Yoshizumi Jr. [dyoshizumi@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Dan S. Yoshizumi Jr. from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dyoshizumi@aol.com

First Name: Dan S.

Last Name: Yoshizumi Jr.

City: Kaneohe
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Annie Okazaki [kinguhma@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:20 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Annie Okazaki from Aiea, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS.

Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve.

These measures will directly affect my 18 month old son who will be unable to attend kindergarten until he is 6 years old because his birthday is August 23rd. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare my child and many other children in Hawaii for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development.

We know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies prove that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents in Hawaii with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool.

Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii.

Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all.

I am confident that you seek the best education and opportunities for the children of Hawaii. They are our future leaders and will help move Hawaii forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Sincerely,

Annie Okazaki

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kinguhma@gmail.com

First Name: Annie

Last Name: Okazaki

City: Aiea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96701

FINTestimony

From: Esperanza Siyal [spsiyal@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Esperanza Siyal from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): spsiyal@gmail.com

First Name: Esperanza

Last Name: Siyal

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: Gayla Coloma [gaylacoloma@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 5:17 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Gayla Coloma from Hilo, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. Working with children, families, schools and community programs in underserved and remote communities in poverty, it is very clear that all children need and deserve access to quality early learning programs in order for Hawaii to be the kind of state we can all be proud of. We need healthy, capable, and contributing adults, and in order for that to happen. Hawaii needs to make a strong commitment to give all of our children a strong foundation. These bills would begin to provide parents with more access to essential programs and services. We need to begin this effort immediately, and build a system that will grow and continue to show benefits for generations to come in Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gaylacoloma@gmail.com

First Name: Gayla

Last Name: Coloma

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720

FINTestimony

From: Georgette Luppino [georgetteluppino@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 9:11 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Georgette Luppino from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): georgetteluppino@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Georgette

Last Name: Luppino

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96821

FINTestimony

From: hannah trenhaile [htrenhaile53@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 9:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

hannah trenhaile from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): htrenhaile53@hotmail.com

First Name: hannah

Last Name: trenhaile

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Davy Oshiro [ae101_2006@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 1:15 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Davy Oshiro from waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ae101_2006@yahoo.com

First Name: Davy

Last Name: Oshiro

City: waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: GEnavi Pablico [puanani_677@excite.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 1:06 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

GEnavi Pablico from waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): puanani_677@excite.com

First Name: GEnavi

Last Name: Pablico

City: waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: jane bargiel [janebargiel@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:18 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

jane bargiel from 1054 kainui dr, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): janebargiel@gmail.com

First Name: jane

Last Name: bargiel

City: 1054 kainui dr
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Diane Arconado [dijaco888@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Diane Arconado from Wailuku, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dijaco888@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Arconado

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793

FINTestimony

From: Cheryl Tabaco [ctabaco001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Cheryl Tabaco from Haiku, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ctabaco001@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Cheryl

Last Name: Tabaco

City: Haiku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96708

FINTestimony

From: Jane Dickson [jdickson@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jane Dickson from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: I am very grateful to have the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. These measures are important to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the opportunity for the quality early learning experience they deserve. I have been lucky enough to spend my entire working life in early childhood education - teaching in Head Start programs, private preschools, first and second grade classrooms, and the undergraduate elementary and early childhood program at UH Manoa. Therefore, I know through personal experience that good preschool programs help children in so many ways. Children's social growth, their intellectual curiosity, their physical development, and their emotional health are all fostered in a quality preschool. Children learn to work with others, listen to a story, ask questions, explore the world around them, and value themselves as learners.

It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jdickson@hawaii.edu

First Name: Jane

Last Name: Dickson

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Janice Gier [jkealohagier@seagullschools.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Janice Gier from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jkealohagier@seagullschools.com

First Name: Janice

Last Name: Gier

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Jayne San Jose [jayne.sanjose@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jayne San Jose from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

At the Title I funded school where I teach, our kindergarten grade level continues to grow every MONTH. Many of our children are considered "junior kindergarten," and for many of our children this is their pre-school AND kindergarten year. Large class sizes, heavy curriculum, and lack of resources greatly affect the impact made on our children. Funding for early childhood will allow our younger generation to have the opportunity to be better prepared with a stronger foundation for their academic career. Please give our children what they deserve! The absolute best!!

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jayne.sanjose@yahoo.com

First Name: Jayne

Last Name: San Jose

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826

FINTestimony

From: Jennifer Ulibas [jenniferulibas@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:38 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jennifer Ulibas from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jenniferulibas@gmail.com

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Ulibas

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: Jim Eberle [jeberle@patch-hi.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:24 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jim Eberle from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jeberle@patch-hi.org

First Name: Jim

Last Name: Eberle

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Isaac Kosasa [ikosasa@ficoh.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 5:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Isaac Kosasa from Aiea, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ikosasa@ficoh.com

First Name: Isaac

Last Name: Kosasa

City: Aiea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96701

FINTestimony

From: Jamie Goya [jlyngoya@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 5:03 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jamie Goya from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jlyngoya@hawaiiantel.net

First Name: Jamie

Last Name: Goya

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: JoAnn Yuen [fopawz@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:51 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

JoAnn Yuen from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): fopawz@mac.com

First Name: JoAnn

Last Name: Yuen

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: Ka'ina Bonacorsi [kaina.bonacorsi@mauicounty.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:11 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Ka'ina Bonacorsi from Wailuku, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

As the Maui County Early Childhood Resource Coordinator I am very hopeful that this legislation will pass and give young children and families in Maui County affordable access to high quality early education and care. This legislation is especially important in order to make sure that those children affected by the ending of JrK will have education and care opportunities that will prepare them for success in Kindergarten and relieve the heavy and probably unexpected burden of paying for another year of child care from already financially stressed low to moderate income families .

Respectfully,

Ka'ina Bonacorsi

Maui County Early Childhood Resource Coordinator

200 S. High St

Wailuku, HI 96793

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kaina.bonacorsi@mauicounty.gov

First Name: Ka'ina

Last Name: Bonacorsi

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96768

FINTestimony

From: Karen Gavey [gavey@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 8:35 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Karen Gavey from Haleiwa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gavey@hawaii.edu

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Gavey

City: Haleiwa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96712

FINTestimony

From: Keriann Osada [keriann@osadas.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Keriann Osada from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): keriann@osadas.com

First Name: Keriann

Last Name: Osada

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Arthur Bein [moot2468@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:44 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Arthur Bein from Kihei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): moot2468@yahoo.com

First Name: Arthur

Last Name: Bein

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753

FINTestimony

From: Kimberly Acierto [aciertok@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 6:39 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kimberly Acierto from Kapaa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): aciertok@gmail.com

First Name: Kimberly

Last Name: Acierto

City: Kapaa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96746

FINTestimony

From: Kristine Fiatoa [fiatoaz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kristine Fiatoa from Pearl City, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): fiatoaz@yahoo.com

First Name: Kristine

Last Name: Fiatoa

City: Pearl City
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96782

FINTestimony

From: Diane Tabangay [dtabangay@ymcahonolulu.org]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Diane Tabangay from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dtabangay@ymcahonolulu.org

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Tabangay

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

FINTestimony

From: Duangkamol Chairat [noon_new19@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Duangkamol Chairat from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): noon_new19@hotmail.com

First Name: Duangkamol

Last Name: Chairat

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: Cartoon Bunming [c-bunming@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Cartoon Bunming from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): c-bunming@hotmail.com

First Name: Cartoon

Last Name: Bunming

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: Krystina Yadao [kyadao@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Krystina Yadao from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kyadao@hawaii.edu

First Name: Krystina

Last Name: Yadao

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: Leslie Colby [LESLIE@KAMAAINAKIDS.COM]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:46 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Leslie Colby from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): LESLIE@KAMAAINAKIDS.COM

First Name: Leslie

Last Name: Colby

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96815

FINTestimony

From: Lisa Kimura [lisak@hmhb-hawaii.org]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lisa Kimura from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lisak@hmhb-hawaii.org

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Kimura

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826

FINTestimony

From: Jeannie Jeffery [jeanniejeffery@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 3:44 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jeannie Jeffery from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jeanniejeffery@aol.com

First Name: Jeannie

Last Name: Jeffery

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: Lisa Rapp [rapp_l@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:14 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lisa Rapp from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rapp

45-260 Pahikaua Street

Kaneohe, HI 96744

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): rapp_l@yahoo.com

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Rapp

City: Kaneohe
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Lynn Wilson [lbwilson@webfishpacific.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lynn Wilson from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lbwilson@webfishpacific.com

First Name: Lynn

Last Name: Wilson

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

FINTestimony

From: Malia Sakaki [msakaki@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 7:40 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Malia Sakaki from 95-658 Maiaku Street, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): msakaki@hawaii.edu

First Name: Malia

Last Name: Sakaki

City: 95-658 Maiaku Street
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: Margaret Mikulanec [pegmikulanec@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 7:10 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Margaret Mikulanec from Indianola, IA writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures. I am writing from Iowa where we have had universal preschool for a few years and as a middle school teacher we r seeing great advances as all of our kids r coming better prepared. We r not having to do as much remediation which frees up money for other needs. Early education pays off for all of us. Good luck and full speed ahead for kids!!!

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): pegmikulanec@yahoo.com

First Name: Margaret

Last Name: Mikulanec

City: Indianola
State: IA
ZIP Code: 50125

FINTestimony

From: Marie trenhaile [hannahtr@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 9:28 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Marie trenhaile from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): hannahtr@hawaii.edu

First Name: Marie

Last Name: trenhaile

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Marsha Jones [mauigirl1978@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:02 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Marsha Jones from wailuku, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mauigirl1978@yahoo.com

First Name: Marsha

Last Name: Jones

City: wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793

FINTestimony

From: mary shoemaker [mshoemaker@wsgc.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

mary shoemaker from river forest, IL writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mshoemaker@wsgc.com

First Name: mary

Last Name: shoemaker

City: river forest
State: IL
ZIP Code: 60305

FINTestimony

From: Melanie Padgett [melanieandjamie@live.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Melanie Padgett from Pukalani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): melanieandjamie@live.com

First Name: Melanie

Last Name: Padgett

City: Pukalani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96768

FINTestimony

From: Michael Fahey [ihilanisf@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:25 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Michael Fahey from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures. Being a former preschool teacher, I know how important early education is! To not fund it would be damaging to children and families, as well as the economy!

Much Aloha,

Mike Fahey

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ihilanisf@aol.com

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Fahey

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: Milton Ching [chingm006@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:42 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Milton Ching from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): chingm006@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Milton

Last Name: Ching

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Mitchell Kido [aujkdir@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Mitchell Kido from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): aujkdir@gmail.com

First Name: Mitchell

Last Name: Kido

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Nancy Rose Perry-Kepoo [puananip@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 2:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Nancy Rose Perry-Kepoo from Wailuku, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): puananip@hotmail.com

First Name: Nancy Rose

Last Name: Perry-Kepoo

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793

FINTestimony

From: Nicole Gauvin [nicole5012@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Nicole Gauvin from Alexandria, VA writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): nicole5012@gmail.com

First Name: Nicole

Last Name: Gauvin

City: Alexandria
State: VA
ZIP Code: 22304

FINTestimony

From: Ravandolyn Galvin [daphnenixon@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 3:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Ravandolyn Galvin from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): daphnenixon@comcast.net

First Name: Ravandolyn

Last Name: Galvin

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96814

FINTestimony

From: Renee Espiau [reneeespiau@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 9:36 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Renee Espiau from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): reneeespiau@hotmail.com

First Name: Renee

Last Name: Espiau

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Karen Cross [crossl001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 2:07 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Karen Cross from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): crossl001@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Cross

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Robert Wo [bwo@cswow.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Robert Wo from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. I have experienced the positive benefits of an early childhood education program. Our three children all had the opportunity to attend preschool, which provided a solid foundation for their education. My daughter is currently an assistant preschool teacher, and i have personally witnessed the positive impact on her young students. And as a business owner (CSWo & Sons) with over 250 employees, we have a large percentage of employees, especially many of our new hires, who have young families with children of preschool age. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures. Robert Wo, Owner and Executive Officer, CSWo & Sons, Ltd.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): bwo@cswow.com

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Wo

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: roma johnson [romaj@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 10:23 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

roma johnson from kailua-kona, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): romaj@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: roma

Last Name: johnson

City: kailua-kona

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96740

FINTestimony

From: September Jones [vaseptember@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 6:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

September Jones from Arlington, VA writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): vaseptember@gmail.com

First Name: September

Last Name: Jones

City: Arlington
State: VA
ZIP Code: 22205

FINTestimony

From: Stephanie Hall-Morin [hallmorin@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Stephanie Hall-Morin from Hilo, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): hallmorin@gmail.com

First Name: Stephanie

Last Name: Hall-Morin

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720

FINTestimony

From: stephanie kakalia [laulimak@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 6:57 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

stephanie kakalia from waianae, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): laulimak@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: stephanie

Last Name: kakalia

City: waianae

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792

FINTestimony

From: Scott Sato [scottsato@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 1:28 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Scott Sato from Kapaa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): scottsato@gmail.com

First Name: Scott

Last Name: Sato

City: Kapaa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96746

FINTestimony

From: Tandy Tabata [tandyawaya@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:49 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Tandy Tabata from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): tandyawaya@gmail.com

First Name: Tandy

Last Name: Tabata

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: Jimmy Edsell [nanakuliballer56@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 1:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jimmy Edsell from Waiane, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Jimmy Edsell

87-2135-2 Helelua Pl

Waianae, HI 96792

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): nanakuliballer56@yahoo.com

First Name: Jimmy

Last Name: Edsell

City: Waiane

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792

FINTestimony

From: Temidayo Alamurin [temidayo@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 1:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Temidayo Alamurin from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): temidayo@hawaii.edu

First Name: Temidayo

Last Name: Alamurin

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96848

FINTestimony

From: Cinzia Olter [giambay_olter@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 12:45 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Cinzia Olter from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): giambay_olter@yahoo.com

First Name: Cinzia

Last Name: Olter

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826

FINTestimony

From: Melissa Giuffre [dakawaii1@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 12:36 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Melissa Giuffre from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dakawaii1@gmail.com

First Name: Melissa

Last Name: Giuffre

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Christy Ryan [christy.ryan@ricoh-usa.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Christy Ryan from Wahiawa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children like my daughter for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents, like me, and with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): christy.ryan@ricoh-usa.com

First Name: Christy

Last Name: Ryan

City: Wahiawa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96786

FINTestimony

From: Terri Yoshinaga [mztee22@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 7:58 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Terri Yoshinaga from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mztee22@hotmail.com

First Name: Terri

Last Name: Yoshinaga

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822

FINTestimony

From: Tessie Kotrys [konoama8403@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 1:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Tessie Kotrys from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Tessie Kotrys

92-1108 Palahia Street, Apt E103

Kapolei, HI 96707

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): konoama8403@gmail.com

First Name: Tessie

Last Name: Kotrys

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

FINTestimony

From: Tracy Ruggiero [ruggiero_2@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:43 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Tracy Ruggiero from Kihei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ruggiero_2@hotmail.com

First Name: Tracy

Last Name: Ruggiero

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753

FINTestimony

From: Troy Abraham [tabraham08@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:36 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Troy Abraham from Hilo, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): tabraham08@gmail.com

First Name: Troy

Last Name: Abraham

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720

FINTestimony

From: VINCENT KIMURA [vincent_kimura@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 4:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

VINCENT KIMURA from HONOLULU, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): vincent_kimura@yahoo.com

First Name: VINCENT

Last Name: KIMURA

City: HONOLULU

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826

FINTestimony

From: Wendy Tupper [wendy.tupper@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 6:29 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Wendy Tupper from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): wendy.tupper@gmail.com

First Name: Wendy

Last Name: Tupper

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Yvonne Urbas-Leboeuf [yvonnurbas@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:09 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Yvonne Urbas-Leboeuf from Lanai City, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): yvonnurbas@aol.com

First Name: Yvonne

Last Name: Urbas-Leboeuf

City: Lanai City
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96763

FINTestimony

From: Kekoa Beaupre [kbeaupre@nkcpa.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:50 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kekoa Beaupre from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kbeaupre@nkcpa.com

First Name: Kekoa

Last Name: Beaupre

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Chanelle Kukona Lucero [kukona.lucero@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Chanelle Kukona Lucero from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kukona.lucero@gmail.com

First Name: Chanelle

Last Name: Kukona Lucero

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

FINTestimony

From: Charlene Burgess [charlene.burgess7@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Charlene Burgess from Lihue, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): charlene.burgess7@gmail.com

First Name: Charlene

Last Name: Burgess

City: Lihue

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96766

FINTestimony

From: April Okamoto [april623@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

April Okamoto from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): april623@hawaii.edu

First Name: April

Last Name: Okamoto

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Christmas N. Kahawaiolaa [nkahawaiolaa@pidfoundation.org]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:45 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Christmas N. Kahawaiolaa from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): nkahawaiolaa@pidfoundation.org

First Name: Christmas N.

Last Name: Kahawaiolaa

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: Elaine Yamashita [elainey208@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:31 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Elaine Yamashita from Kula, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1.

As an early childhood educator in Hawai'i for the last 34 years, this is an initiative that I've waited for - for a looooong time! An investment in quality early childhood education will benefit not only the keiki and 'ohana served, but will also benefit the larger community as we build stronger families that are able to support their child's development and learning beyond their crucial early years. Well qualified and effective teachers are key to implementation of quality programs. Please support this important investment in our future.

Elaine Yamashita

Kula, HI 96790

elainey208@gmail.com

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): elainey208@gmail.com

First Name: Elaine

Last Name: Yamashita

City: Kula

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96790

FINTestimony

From: Jacqueline Dudock [jdudock@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:05 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jacqueline Dudock from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jdudock@gmail.com

First Name: Jacqueline

Last Name: Dudock

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96821

FINTestimony

From: Laura Mo [momo.modus@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:50 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Laura Mo from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): momo.modus@gmail.com

First Name: Laura

Last Name: Mo

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96818

FINTestimony

From: Alfred castle [snandmarycastle@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Alfred castle from honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): snandmarycastle@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Alfred

Last Name: castle

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

FINTestimony

From: Faye Furutomo [rosey438@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:01 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Faye Furutomo from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): rosey438@gmail.com

First Name: Faye

Last Name: Furutomo

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

FINTestimony

From: Linda Coble [lindacoble@mac.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:27 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Linda Coble from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of early childhood education. The three measures under consideration are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve.

A statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole.

Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Sincerely,

Linda Coble

284-2000

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lindacoble@mac.com

First Name: Linda

Last Name: Coble

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

FINTestimony

From: Meghan Debouk Connors [meghan@lunajewels.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:16 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Meghan Debouk Connors from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): meghan@lunajewels.com

First Name: Meghan

Last Name: Debouk Connors

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96814

FINTestimony

From: Melissa Kasik [mkasikrequilman@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 11:10 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Melissa Kasik from Ewa beach, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mkasikrequilman@gmail.com

First Name: Melissa

Last Name: Kasik

City: Ewa beach
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96706

FINTestimony

From: Pixie Flores [pflores@atlasinsurance.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Pixie Flores from Kailua-Kona, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): pflores@atlasinsurance.com

First Name: Pixie

Last Name: Flores

City: Kailua-Kona

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96745

FINTestimony

From: Reina Kurisu [rdkurisu@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Reina Kurisu from Kapaa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): rdkurisu@gmail.com

First Name: Reina

Last Name: Kurisu

City: Kapaa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96746

FINTestimony

From: Sharon Taba [sharon@medicalhomeworks.net]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 10:36 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Sharon Taba from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sharon@medicalhomeworks.net

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Taba

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822

Testimony of Alicia Kaudala

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: *the education of our children is important. They will be our future. They are the up coming leaders of our state. I only have 3 children left in school. And their goals to achieve all that they can.*

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Alicia Kaudala

Ph or Email: aliciajkaudalu@yahoo.com

Signature Alicia Kaudala

Testimony of Barbara Martin

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness

S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education

& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

Education is important, Education does not start in Kindergarten... it starts in the womb. Continued education from this point and further will be ~~beneficial to the children and the community~~ beneficial towards the children and the community.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Barbara Martin

Ph or Email: leilamartin13@gmail.com

Signature: 

Testimony of Churva Valdez

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: I have 5 children ages are two 17, year olds, 13, 5, 3 all ~~but 1 of my~~ children attended preschool due to was unable to pay for preschool for that one particular child due to a lay off and what I could afford + he is now staying as a kindergarten. Preschool is very ~~an~~ important for child, social ~~an~~ emotional, physical, academic, fine motor + all other aspects ~~the~~ its very important. Very ~~to~~ fortunate + appreciative for ~~the~~ the kids steps program.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Churva Valdez

Ph or Email: beseval11@gmail.com

Signature: Churva Valdez

Testimony of Derrick Rabaino

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness

S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education

& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

As an adult I know that in the near future I would like the best for our future children. Anything helpful is still help, and if you have the ability to help not only thousands of children but by extension their families then it is your duty as a legislator to help the people of Hawaii.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: 

Ph or Email: drabaino@gmail.com

Signature: Derrick Rabaino

Testimony of Keoni Medeiros

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

as a young adult I know that in the near future I would like the best for my future children. Anything helpful is still help, and if you have the ability to help not only thousands of children but by extension their families, then it is your duty as a legislator to help the people of Hawaii.
-Thank you.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Keoni S. Medeiros

Ph or Email: 8086381252

Signature: Keoni Medeiros

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice-Chair

House Committee on Finance

From: Liz Chun, Early Education Policy Consultant

Date: Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 2:00 pm, Conference Room 308

Subject: **SB 1084, SD1: Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early Childhood Education Programs.**

I submit this testimony **in strong support of SB 1084, SD1, HD1 proposing an amendment to Article X, Section I of the State Constitution.** This bill will allow a state-funded voluntary early education program to be implemented by private early childhood education programs.

Other states' commitments to young children are historic. In a recent article the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) reported that "Wisconsin included early education in its state constitution back in 1848...[more recently] Florida residents added a constitutional amendment for voluntary pre-K in 2002... in North Carolina a "judge recently ruled that pre-K was a necessary part of the state's constitutional commitment to provide a sound and basic education. In a similar ruling in the early 2000s, pre-K was established in certain districts throughout South Carolina to fulfill the state's constitutional obligation to provide an adequate education for its children.

By proposing an early childhood program which utilizes both Department of Education (DOE) sites and private preschool providers, the connection to DOE will be supported while also utilizing the expertise and experience of community wide preschools. The positive linkages among parents, early childhood programs, and K-3 programs can systemically enhance Hawaii's educational pipeline.

This approach is economically sensible as it utilizes the infrastructure developed over decades of preschool education. **The 39 states who already publically fund early childhood programs utilize private early education programs for implementation.**

Hawaii boasts a strong cohort of early education programs. These programs will be required to follow a prescribed set of program standards. Child outcomes will be monitored and reported to ensure quality and efficacy of the program.

I urge you to allow this bill to go forward. The people of Hawaii deserve the opportunity to speak up for their keiki.

Contact Information: lizchun@hawaii.rr.com

Testimony of Melanie Almazar-Utu

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

Early Education is very important to the future of Hawaii. As you know, the children will soon be the leaders of the State. My children, 13 yr old twins Nathan Utu & Rachel Utu have had the opportunity of attending preschool at Alphabetland in Waipahu since they were 17 months old. My daughter was 7th grade ~~secretary~~ ^{secretary}, is currently 8th grade president at Highlands Intermediate. My son attends Kamehameha School and was invited at 7th grade. These are the fruits of the seeds sown through early education.


Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Please hear our voices and know that the opportunity of early education ~~is~~ is crucial to our future.

Sincerely,

Name: Melanie Almazar-Utu

Ph or Email: MelanieNR@hawaiianet.net

Signature: 

94-1425 Melina Lp Apt X
Waipahu, HI 96797

Dear esteemed legislators,

Please accept my testimony regarding SB21048.

First of all, let me provide a little background about myself. I grew up in Palolo Valley, O'ahu. I attended Palolo Elementary, then went to Jarrett Intermediate, then went on to graduate from Kaimuki High School. I then moved to Los Angeles for college, and subsequently lived there for a period of time before moving home to Hawaii. I now live on the Big Island, and teach at Hilo High.

I am opposed to this legislation, as it seems to mirror canned bills that are created by a Republican-like lobby organization called ALEC, which provides gifts and the likes to politicians at their conventions, in order to get politicians to enact their pre-written bills. This organization further supports the legislators by writing any changes they need, etc.

As a principle, I think we should all be concerned when bills are not written here, for our own needs in Hawaii, by people who understand the needs of schools, teachers, students, and communities.

It appears that this bill will undermine public school, and public school funding, a long-held aspiration of the Republican party. I counter that the answer to public education is not tearing it down and dismantling it, but rather to invest in it in ways that make sense. You can set up a committee to do this. I would be happy to help run it. I have much experience as an auditor from my career as a CPA prior to becoming a teacher.

But I would also like to say that I am a product O'ahu's public schools. And I got an adequate education. It prepared me to be successful in college, and then in a job. I also had parents and community and church members who supported me throughout my life. There are many other things going on that hinder children from rising to the top. And I do not think we can blame their shortcomings all on teachers. The older I get, the more I realize the deep truth in the saying, "it takes a village."

I will first respectfully say, that just as I do not understand best how your job works, you cannot understand mine, unless you have been a teacher. Next, I cannot understand why legislators, as well as the public presume to understand our job well enough to pass legislation on something that will have a huge impact on us. Would you like me to write laws about how you should do your job?

This is why we need school issues to be handled by teams of people who understand how schools work, the psychology of child development, the intricate workings of child behavior, how to best guide and build good character in children.

This is why your role cannot and should not be put above the union to try to address these matters.

Let me clarify that I am not a major supporter of unions. But I do not like the union-busting slant this piece of legislation encompasses. As someone in private practice as a CPA for 13 years in Los Angeles, I did not feel a need for unions. I was well taken care of by my firm. My employers had good employment practices. But, when I became a teacher in Beverly Hills, California, I quickly saw how bad the employer could be, and began to understand why unions are important. (Even though I still believe there should be better mechanisms in place to remove bad teachers.)

Further, while in California, I saw Los Angeles School District struggle as a businessman became superintendent. Sadly, this was not effective, and he retired without much claim to fame as superintendent. I believe he was largely ineffective because he had no understanding of what it is to be a teacher.

I think this is the same problem we have with legislators trying to pass laws on teaching, and I also think it was a bad idea to let the governor appoint the board of education, many of whom, again, have no idea what it is like to teach in a classroom of 30 students.

We teachers have many good ideas on how to improve our schools. You simply need to hear our voices. You are welcome to call me at any time for more ideas.

But, in a nutshell, a very simple answer to most education problems, is one I saw in expensive, private college-prep schools in Los Angeles. You know, those schools that all the stars send their kids to....The answer: 2 adults in a classroom of 15 kids. One of the adults is a teacher and the other is a paraprofessional, or assistant. We teachers can get kids educated in nearly any subject if we are given this appropriate and proper adult-to-student ratio.

So if you want to get serious about getting all of Hawaii's children well-educated....there's the answer.

Next, I wonder why the public is so happy to strap teachers with so much beaurocratic red tape. I truly feel like we are being discriminated against. Nowhere, nor at any time, have I ever seen the public, and legislators pick on a single class of employees as they do with teachers. No other group of government employees gets such tough scrutiny. This is not done to police or firemen, or other state workers.

Can you please tell me which country in the world rose to the top in education by trying to fire all the teachers?

None. This simply is not how the top educational countries got there. Take Singapore. They are ranked in the top 5 in education in the world now, consistently, year after year. They INVESTED in their teachers and educational system. They actually send their teachers to two weeks training per year on HOW to teach content knowledge. They have a centralized teacher education program so it is consistent for all teachers.

Denmark has done much the same. Denmark also has a unified curriculum that every teacher knows, and which they all share. They also have common office rooms where teachers can be near other professionals and collaborate.

We do none of that here. The system in Hawaii, as in the larger United States, is extremely haphazard, without any uniformity among schools, and even within schools. And the teachers are currently the political scapegoat.

I will be happy to share ideas with you on how this situation can be turned around and made more successful. We could begin simply by having standardized syllabuses and pacing guides for high school classes. Currently, all teachers are charged with coming up with their own, so there is no uniformity.

Next, we should all have the same teaching materials at our fingertips. As a special ed teacher, I do not have access to the same books as regular ed teachers.

Further, if I am expected to teach Common Core Standards for math next year, why is there no talk of training me on HOW to teach this? If our state and country is as serious about education as Singapore is, we should act more like Singapore in this regard.

And part of Singapore's education system charges the family with part of the responsibility of their children's education. Again, teachers are not the scapegoat there, as they are here.

Another piece of Singapore's system is that they hire curriculum writers. Yes, they pay people to do this!!!

Why do we go shopping around for a book made by someone else, like a one-size-fits-all? Is this the best approach? Not for Singapore.

Please take my comments into consideration. There are ways to make our system better. But SB238 is not the answer.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have, and am willing to come and meet with you at a later date about this matter. I have 13 years experience as a teacher in different states, and would be happy to share and compare the best practices of the different systems.

Mahalo, Noel Al-Khatib, 808.981.5750, Hilo Hawaii.

Testimony by Pam Omidyar

The Omidyar Group

April 1, 2013

House Committee on Finance

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Room 308, 2:00 PM

Support for:

SB 1093 HD 1 Relating to School Readiness;

SB 1095 HD 1 Relating to Early Childhood Education;

SB 1084 HD 1 To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early Childhood Education Programs;

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I **wholeheartedly support** these bills as key investments in the future of our State. A child's foundation is critical in the early years, and is the platform upon which all other programs and learning is built.

Eighty five percent of human brain development occurs from birth to age five, and by age eight, a child's pattern for lifelong learning is set. Implementing a high-quality preschool program that is fully inclusive and equitable for all of our children is a vital step in our State's future. Without a solid foundation in early childhood, the other programs and efforts that happen later in life are less effective.

There is plenty of time to ensure children are strong in their academic studies, but the window for teaching empathy, cooperation, and many other critical prosocial and emotional skills is best capitalized on when young. We must focus on the "whole child," including social, emotional, and cognitive aspects of development. Neglecting to do so has long lasting negative effects, both for the child and our communities.

We have a rare opportunity to transform Hawaii into a national leader of early childhood. Hawaii is in a unique position to learn from the successes of other programs, avoiding costly mistakes. Now that President Obama has announced plans to expand access to preschool and childcare, it is even more important for Hawaii to establish a state preschool program, ensuring we have the quality and standards in place to secure additional federal support for early childhood.

I urge you to support these bills. Together, we can work towards outcomes that ensure all children are valued, safe, healthy and ready to succeed in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Pam Omidyar

Testimony of Ruyma Baya

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:



Children are our future
and they should be learning and reading
at a early age.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Ruyma Baya

Ph or Email: _____

Signature: 

I would urge you to support and fund bills for a statewide program that will support early learning for four year old children. In my opinion this program is not only the right thing, and essential thing, to do for our children, but it will save our communities a great deal of money in the years to come. Call it, if you will, an investment in the future of not only individual children, but in our community and society as a whole. Children who can go on to be successful in school will be an asset to our society and not a liability – ending up in prison or on the unemployment roles.

Please support SB 1084

Thank you,

Richard Emery
1555 Kalani Iki St
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

Representative Sylvia Luke
Chair
House Finance Committee

Members of House Finance Committee

Dear Ms. Luke and Members of the House Finance Committee,

On behalf of Atherton Family Foundation, as well as myself personally, I would like to support the funding of the Early Childhood bills SB1084, SB1098, SB1095, and HB1402. The Atherton Family Foundation has been a supporter of Early Childhood Education for many years. We lease property to three of the KCAA pre-schools for \$1.00 per year. We believe strongly in the HKL Castle Foundation's study that each \$1 invested in Early Childhood Education will have a return of \$4.20. It is critical, for the 2014-2015 biennial budget, that the late born children who are now not able to attend Junior Kindergarten be put in pre-school for four year olds. We believe that over a 10 year period, the State of Hawaii should strive to achieve the objective that all four year olds in Hawaii be afforded the opportunity to attend a Pre-School. As 85% of a child's brain is neutrally connected by age five, we think this is critical to having children ready to learn when they attend kindergarten. Currently, 40% of the State's children do not attend pre-school, and fall behind when they enter kindergarten and never catch up.

We also believe that while the State should be paying for the full costs of low-income children to attend pre-school, and that it should only be providing funds to middle income parents on a sliding scale. We know that there is currently \$40 million invested annually in Early Childhood Education by the Private Sector, with the primary contributor being Kamehameha Schools. We therefore think that over 10 years the cost of the program will grow to between \$100mm to \$125mm. (The higher side of that number is calculated in the following manner. As the program being proposed is voluntary, we believe that a high number of 80% of all eligible children will be actually attending pre-school. The median cost of pre-school attendance in the private pre-school system is \$720 per month. Multiply the \$720 times 12 months and then use a figure of 80% of a public school cohort of 18,000 children- t and you would come up with roughly \$125mm. If you apply the income sliding scale mentioned above the number could be considerably lower.) We believe that this is a reasonable expense, given the fact that this investment should substantially improve the K-12 public schools, as the majority of children will be ready to learn when they enter kindergarten. Initially, for the 2014-2015 biennial budget, we are only asking for \$32.9 mm to fund the program for the late born children. We would very much appreciate your consideration of this very important initiative for the future of our children and for the overall benefit of the State of Hawaii and its citizens.

Atherton Family Foundation gives away approximately \$4.5 mm annually in the State of Hawaii. The Board of Directors is happy to play a role in improving the lives of Hawaii's children and its residents.

Aloha,

Robin Midkiff
Vice President

March 29, 2013

Honorable Finance Committee Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Scott Nishimoto,
and Finance Committee Members,

I have been a family child care provider, a preschool teacher and administrator, public school teacher in DOE K-1 classrooms, and teacher educator at HCC and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. My experience in these many roles has provided the experience base to understand first hand why the research so overwhelmingly shows that money spent on high quality programs for children and their families is a wise investment. We are one of only 11 states that have not invested in programs for young children and the workforce needed to provide for our youngest keiki.

As important as my professional experience, my personal experience as the mother of twins compels me to write **in support of SB 1095, SB 1093 and SB1084**. When my twins were three we barely managed to pay for them to attend preschool two days a week. When they were four we sent them every day. Together their tuitions totaled more than 50% of our take home pay each month. My husband and I were fortunate enough to get help from my mother and a close friend since the tuitions together were as much as our mortgage. My children, a daughter who is pretty typical and a son who was later diagnosed with multiple disabilities, will enter high school next year. Both are succeeding in school, love books and learning, search for meaning in their studies and are good citizens who try to give back to the community. Their solid foundation in the early years has made all the difference in their educational lives. My children entered their grade school years confident, competent, and excited about school and I came with the desire to continue to partner with their teachers by advocating for their needs and supporting the children at home. My son learned to adapt to his disabilities and thrives without requiring any special services.

The early learning bills SB 1093, SB 1095 and SB 1084 provide equality of access. The choice of a quality early learning experience does not exist for at about half our island families and is a struggle for many more. As a mother, I cannot in good conscience be silent about a situation where so many of the children in our state are denied such an essential educational services. Early education experiences should not be a privilege for only those who can afford it or who have a personal safety net. With all we know today about brain development and the long term implications of what takes place in a child's first five years of life, it behooves us to make sure that ALL young children have access to programs that foster healthy development in all domains and nurture in children and their families a deep sense of connection with their schools and communities.

The disposition to wonder, ability to collaborate with others, hunger to embrace books and seek knowledge, sense of mastery and worth, and drive to find answers to questions, were all nurtured in my children by a quality early childhood education program with professionals trained in early childhood education.

This should be the right for all our children.

I urge you to **pass SB 1093, SB 1095, and SB1084**. Please make this courageous investment in our future.

Sincerely yours,

Robyn Chun
Pearl City, HI 96782
chunrsb@gmail.com

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: myalohacompany@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM
Attachments: DOCTest11.PDF

SB1084

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wade M. Anderson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 1:12 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: writenow808@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alan Isbell | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: Honorable Committee Members, Voting against this bill should not be viewed as opposition to early childhood education, but rather as an affirmation of the worth of our public schools. There are many compelling reasons why this bill should not go forward, with separation of church and state, and discrimination being serious concerns. But perhaps more important is the erosion of the notion that government should support public schools rather than private institutions. This has been held dear to Democrats in recent years, in opposition to Republicans who have argued for vouchers to that would have taxpayers fund private school tuition. The twist on this is that public school kindergarten remains non-mandatory, and junior kindergarten is gone. How does this fly with a bill that would have the state fund private preschool? Please do not vote for this bill and consequently open the door to privatization of our public school system. That would not be in the best interest of Hawaii's keiki. Mahalo for your consideration. Alan Isbell Wailuku Elementary 4th grade teacher

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FINTestimony

From: EDU Testimony
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 8:48 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: FW: SB 1084: PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

From: Amber & Ken Garcia [<mailto:garciak005@hawaii.rr.com>]
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:36 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: SB 1084: PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Aloha!

I strongly believe in preschool for student success in school, but not if the process violates the basic tenet of separation of church and state. I oppose SB1084 because it gives public funds to private programs but takes away from the public funding and resources needed to make public school students, teachers, and schools successful. The bill supports vouchers and violates the basic tenet of separation of church and state.

Mahalo,

Amber A. Garcia

Teacher, Waimea Elementary School

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 10:50 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: amyathomas@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Amy Perruso | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: As the parent of a public school child, I am STRONGLY opposed to SB1084. Public funds should NOT be used for private educational purposes, EVER. Please do not abuse your public position of power to benefit private interests.

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FINTestimony

From: Anna Peters [apeters@goodbeginnings.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:35 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Anna Peters from Lihue, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): apeters@goodbeginnings.org

First Name: Anna

Last Name: Peters

City: Lihue

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96766

FINTestimony

From: Aubrey Yee [aubreyy@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:07 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Aubrey Yee from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): aubreyy@hawaii.edu

First Name: Aubrey

Last Name: Yee

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

Testimony of

ANDREW HIRAYAMA

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness

S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education

& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

MY CHILDREN WERE ABLE TO ATTEND PRESCHOOL, AND
WE FELT THEY WERE BETTER PREPARED FOR
KINDERGARTEN THAN THEIR CLASSMATES
WHO ~~HAD~~ DID NOT HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITY.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name:

ANDREW HIRAYAMA

Ph or Email:

ajt8662@yahoo.com

Signature:

Andrew

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 2:02 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: avisleona@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Avis Kaona | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I oppose this bill for several reasons. 1) Using public funds for private entities is a form of privatization and vouchers. 2) Our public education system could use these public funds. 3) A constitutional ammendment would be costly 4) Will there be equal opportunity at these private institutions for all children? 5) Will these private institutions be held accountable as public institutions are in regards to standards and testing? 6) Will teachers be licensed as public teachers are required to be? Please consider these things before making any decisions in regards to this bill. As a teacher I am not opposed to early childhood education. Why let the junior k program currently in place sunset? Perhaps this program could be improved with these public funds!

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Testimony of B. Noelani Iokapa-Guerrero & 'Ohana Iokapa-Guerrero

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

Learning and education occurs and begins far before elementary grades and resources & support for early education in both the English and Hawaiian language is essential and critical.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: B. Noelani Iokapa-Guerrero

Ph or Email: noelani@ahapunaleo.org

Signature: 

Testimony of Brian Rodriguez

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

It gives children a head start to learning. Majority of the children of working parents enroll them in an early education; it will help all the children keep up with the other children.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Brian Rodriguez

Ph or Email: 5277344

Signature: Brian Rodriguez

1649 Hoolana St
PO Box 96782

Testimony of Bronson Paris

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: early childhood
education is needed very strongly because
there are future.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Bronson

Ph or Email: ImoaBP@yahoo.com

Signature: Bronson Paris

P.O. Box 2692 Waiānāe HI 96792

April 1, 2013
Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2013
House Finance Committee
Conference Room 308, 2 p.m.
In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1; 1093 SD2 HD1; and 1095 SD2 HD1

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair,
House Committee on Finance

Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING
TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS.

Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members:

My name is Celia Chang Takahashi and I am an Early Childhood Professional and the mother of two young children.

I am writing this testimony to ask for your support of submit of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve & need in order to become contributing, successful members of our communities.

These measures are needed in order for the Executive Office on Early Learning to proceed with its educational plan for Hawaii's young children. A statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development.

As a parent with a child in preschool, I see on a daily basis parents struggling to send their child to a quality early learning program. Some are fortunate enough to qualify for financial assistance from the state (i.e., Preschool Open Doors, Childcare Connections, etc.), or private sources (i.e., Pauahi Keiki Scholars) or have assistance from their family.

I also see families that fall in the “gap group” ~ that is those that do not qualify for any financial assistance and have no familial financial support. I see how these families struggle every day making difficult decisions on what they can sacrifice so they can pay for their child to attend a quality program, which on average costs \$720 a month. Families every month need to make tough decisions: what do we sacrifice; what do we cut back on to pay this tuition.

As a parent and an educator, I believe that the education of our children should not be a sacrifice.

Supporting a variety of quality early learning experiences is crucial because approximately 5,000 keiki will be affected by the kindergarten age change that will happen in Hawaii’s public schools starting with the 2014 -2015 school year.

Again, I run into parents everyday who are struggling to pay for tuition every month for their child to go to preschool. With the kindergarten age change they wonder if they can afford to send their child to preschool for an additional year.

Then there are the keiki who are currently not enrolled in an early learning program at all and **will not** be enrolled when the kindergarten age change is in place.

The Hawaii State School Readiness Assessment (HSSRA) for the 2012 -2013 School Year estimates that approximately 43% of Hawaii’s keiki entered kindergarten without preschool experience. I believe that a fair amount of those keiki entered kindergarten without preschool experience because their families could not afford the monthly tuition which again averages more than \$700 a month.

I firmly believe that in order for Hawaii to continue to be the “Aloha State” it must begin to show its Aloha for its youngest residents and invest in the education of its keiki.

By investing in Hawaii's youngest residents today with an early learning system that provides a plethora of quality learning experiences, we invest in a future in Hawaii that:

- Has higher retention and graduation rates
- Has lower teen pregnancy/parent rates
- Invests in education more than incarceration

It is time for us to seriously invest in our future by making an investment in our keiki.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1.

FINTestimony

From: Charlotte Maddock [mom2gs@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Charlotte Maddock from Waianae, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mom2gs@msn.com

First Name: Charlotte

Last Name: Maddock

City: Waianae

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792

FINTestimony

From: Chloe Fonacier [chloef@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:32 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Chloe Fonacier from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): chloef@hawaii.edu

First Name: Chloe

Last Name: Fonacier

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: Christopher Giannaris [cgiannaris@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:10 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Christopher Giannaris from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cgiannaris@mac.com

First Name: Christopher

Last Name: Giannaris

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:01 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: cjpasco@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Colleen Pasco | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I am writing in opposition to SB 1084 SD1 HD1 regarding public funds for private early childhood education programs. This is just another end run around a voucher system for private education. I agree that early education is vital for the success of all students, but why does it have to be by private providers, who may or may not be trained and highly qualified educators like those in the public school system? The DOE recently dropped the junior kindergarten program because of a lack of funding. If the Legislature and the Governor want to show support for early childhood education, they should put the funds into the DOE earmarked specifically for junior kindergarten and require mandatory attendance in kindergarten for all 5 year olds. We currently do not require school attendance until the age of 6. That is a travesty to the idea of getting these children into comprehensive education programs at an early age. I believe there is a movement determined to chip away at the very foundation of public education in this country and in this state. Providing public funds for private early education violates the principle of separation of church and state and opens the door to vouchers for all grade levels. Do not let this action undermine the public schools in Hawaii. Vote NO on SB 1084. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony of Courtney N.

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 306

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

I believe that kids need earlyhood education
Because. They learn more while in toddlerhood
Because their ~~is~~ more interested in learning
things and are so observing to things. I believe
it makes a big difference to the kids that start
Early education tend to be more smarter than
kids that start school later.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Courtney N.

Ph or Email: Cndhoikai@gmail.com

Signature: Courtney Nohokai

FINTestimony

From: daniel goya [dgoya@pidfoundation.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

daniel goya from honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dgoya@pidfoundation.org

First Name: daniel

Last Name: goya

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

TESTIMONY

Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS

Testimony Presented Before

House Finance Committee

April 2, 2013, in Conference Room 308

by Darcie Scharfenstein

Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Mahalo for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1.

I believe our children will succeed if there is an equitable early learning system in place. I am requesting that home visiting programs be included within the legislation. It is imperative the 5,100 children who will be affected when junior kindergarten is eliminated will have a choice – especially those most at risk of not having access to early education before entering kindergarten. This choice must include options for all families. All children deserve the right to learn the critical skills they need to be prepared for kindergarten and be successful in life. Among the critical components of early learning are home visiting programs, which serve those in rural areas. Also, it's crucial that parents and families become empowered and that happens with a parent's direct participation and engagement in the child's learning process.

Home-visiting education should be delivered to those least able to access early childhood education and care based on a multitude of barriers. Parents As Teachers, a federal evidence model, is an example that identifies the importance and value of cultural practices. Parent child activities are implemented with cultural relevance. When home visitors honor cultural values, beliefs, and practices, trusting relationships are formed, which in turn creates a healthy learning environment shared between the entire family and home visitor. Parents are receptive to learn and apply skills to enhance their child's development and promote positive parenting.

All families, regardless of income or background, should have access to early learning situations. And a culturally responsive, high-quality early learning opportunity will enable a child to develop academically and socially, which ensures future success. The critical years for learning and development of a child are from zero to five. The more we can do to support those early years, the better our community will be as we continue to turn out well-educated, well-adjusted students. Studies continue to prove that children who do not attend early learning programs are more likely to fall behind in school, dropout from high school and earn less in the workforce.

These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program will not only prepare children for school, but will also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. The inclusion of home visiting programs within SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawai'i pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all.

Mahalo for your consideration.

FINTestimony

From: diane arakaki [darakaki@kamaile.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

diane arakaki from pearl city, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all.

As a kindergarten teacher I know that the children in my class who struggle are four years old and have had no prior experience before coming to kindergarten. If there is nothing provided for them they will come the following year further behind than they are now and have a harder time. Children already come to kindergarten without knowing any letter names or sounds and some cannot recognize or write their name. This places them behind their peer who had pre school. It is not their fault that their parents could not afford preschool. As a State we need to even the playing field and ensure all our children have an equal opportunity to achieve in school.

As a parent I have 2 boys who are late born and both experienced social problems in school. We could not afford preschool at that time and now that I am an Educator I know the value of preschool and wish I had the chance to send my boys. I truly feel if they had preschool they would not have had the problems that they did.

PLEASE SUPPORT PRESCHOOL.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): darakaki@kamaile.org

First Name: diane

Last Name: arakaki

City: pearl city

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96782

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 3:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dlching@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Donna L. Ching | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Mahalo for investing in Hawaii's future by supporting this important early education legislation. The investment we make today will more than pay for itself in savings in social, education, criminal justice and health services savings tomorrow. Aloha, Donna L. Ching

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: dgweidman@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Doug Weidman | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: This leads directly to increased privatization (corporate takeover for profit)of public schools. For a change, do some research about other states (TN,TX,IN,NC,LA etc.) which have gone further down the corrupt privatization road than we have. Their education system is in absolute shambles as a result with smart people fleeing those states. I hope this is not what you desire for our state, and I don't believe you were elected to do.

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Testimony of DUSTIN CABATA

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

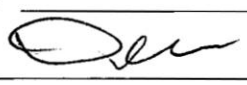
*I would like to see people of Hawaii have
education earlier and better*

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: DUSTIN CABATA

Ph or Email: _____

Signature: 

FINTestimony

From: Eugenie Naone [sistaone@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:50 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Eugenie Naone from Ewa Beach, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because I have seven children. I tried putting them through early child-hood educational programs in the past as well as currently. I was able to only place about two in a pre-school paying a lower tuition due to state funding. The rest of them, I was either making too much to be in a program that would pay or I wasn't working at all, which was the requirement for assistance. The amount per month for a pre-school is ridiculously climbing, with schools charging 1,000.00 a month.

My last child is four years old and is without education right now. She is so smart as she was making full sentences by the time she was 10 months. Now, at four She can tie her shoe, make a sandwich, pour her own drink, and work a computer. However, she will not be able to find her full potential as she is home under the care of my husband who does not know how to be a teacher for her. Her full potential is lost as she will have to wait another year for Kindergarten. I have the option to enroll her in pre-school however my family of seven is not capable of paying an average of 750.00 a month for pre-school and still live day to day, and because my husband is not working most programs will not assist me as he can stay home with her.

I may not see bills like this affect my child as she is already 4 and next year she may enroll in Kindergarten, however I would like to see bills like this be in affect for all children of Hawaii. I have three grand-children who may benefit from a bill such as this. I ask that the House Finance Committee take these real life stories into consideration when they make a decision in giving our four year olds a chance to reach their highest potential.

Thank You,

Eugenie M. Naone

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sistaone@hotmail.com

First Name: Eugenie

Last Name: Naone

City: Ewa Beach

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96706

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 6:30 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: fbellingerg@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Fran Bellinger | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I strongly oppose SB1084. I am a tax payer. I believe ALL public funds are for ALL public schools where ALL students have access to a free public education. If one chooses to attend a non-public/private school, then one should use their own private funds. I do not support paying for another's private education. Public funds ought NOT to support private nor religious education. Instead, use public funds NOW and fix ALL our public schools for ALL students!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: Gale Flynn [gflynn@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:53 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Gale Flynn from Hon, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. These are not just "child care" bills. They are investments in Hawaii's future. They provide essential learning opportunities to keep our children competitive in a global economy. They help to contain our social costs for remedial education, special education, criminal rehabilitation and more. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. The time is now. Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. E holomua kakou. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gflynn@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Gale

Last Name: Flynn

City: Hon

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

Testimony of Gene Name

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance
Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013
Time: 2:00 pm
Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

I am a firm believer that children at an early age learn so much and are passionate about learning. Starting in the early years will benefit our kids' future educational goals.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Gene Name
Ph or Email: 551-7781 / gistaone@hotmail.com
Signature: Gene Name

Testimony of George CHUNG Jr

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

OUR CHILDREN NEEDS IT.
TO LEARN AND ACHIEVE IN FUTURE LIFE.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: GEORGE CHUNG JR.
George Chung Jr

Ph or Email: KEKECHUNG@YAHOO.COM

Signature: George Chung Jr.

Testimony of Gordon Auhoon

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: *I think early education is important for our kids. I really prepares them to transit to another grade*

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Gordon K Auhoon

Ph or Email: (808) 778-8732

Signature: *G Auhoon*

FINTestimony

From: Greg and Pat Farstrup [gfarstrup@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Greg and Pat Farstrup from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gfarstrup@msn.com

First Name: Greg and Pat

Last Name: Farstrup

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96813

Testimony of Huili H. Anderson

In Support of bills
S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance
Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013
Time: 2:00 PM
Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.


I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

it is the right thing to do to invest into the "Biggest Mind Investment" in our state - Our children, all these young minds are going to be the future leaders to make bigger, better state of Hawaii, what is going to happen without investing into our young children when all the current adult & elderly dies off?? Investing in young child all the 0-5 yrs are crucial & very important for a long term vision, whether its Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Huili H. Anderson

Ph or Email: huili.anderson@gmail.com

Signature: 

91-955 Puhiarani St
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

a player which we need bigger nizer on all throughout our states. & Presch & programs funded all are crucial.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 2:37 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jikasan@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| James Cadiz | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I oppose SB1084 because it gives public funds to private programs but takes away from the public funding and resources needed to make public school students, teachers, and schools successful. The bill supports vouchers and violates the basic tenet of separation of church and state.

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FINTestimony

From: james little [jlittle@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:24 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

james little from honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jlittle@hawaii.edu

First Name: james

Last Name: little

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96815

FINTestimony

From: Jaycee Doroen [2hapa@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:28 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jaycee Doroen from Sacramento, CA writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): 2hapa@sbcglobal.net

First Name: Jaycee

Last Name: Doroen

City: Sacramento
State: CA
ZIP Code: 95823

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:02 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: jgrissim@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jean Grissim | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I am opposed to SB1084 because it gives public funds to private programs but takes away from the public funding and resources needed to make public school students, teachers, and schools successful. The bill supports vouchers and violates the basic tenet of separation of church and state.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: Jin Chang [jin3435@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:02 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Jin Chang from Pearl City, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

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Email 1 (Primary): jin3435@hotmail.com

First Name: Jin

Last Name: Chang

City: Pearl City
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96782

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 3:29 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kbrizuela@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kathleen Brizuela | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I am opposed to SB1084 because it gives public funds to private programs but takes away from the public funding and resources needed to make public school students, teachers, and schools successful. The bill supports vouchers and violates the basic tenet of separation of church and state.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: Kathleen Fong [kfong@pidfoundation.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kathleen Fong from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kfong@pidfoundation.org

First Name: Kathleen

Last Name: Fong

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

FINTestimony

From: Kathy Tom [kandktom@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kathy Tom from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kandktom@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Kathy

Last Name: Tom

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Kauai Pratt [kauip@inpeace.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:01 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kauai Pratt from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kauip@inpeace.org

First Name: Kauai

Last Name: Pratt

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Kayla Marcos [kayla_marcos@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kayla Marcos from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kayla_marcos@yahoo.com

First Name: Kayla

Last Name: Marcos

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

FINTestimony

From: Kekoa Beaupre [kbeaupre@nkcpa.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:12 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kekoa Beaupre from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kbeaupre@nkcpa.com

First Name: Kekoa

Last Name: Beaupre

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Kerrie Urosevich [kurosevich@familyhui.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:06 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kerrie Urosevich from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all.

Additionally,

Our K-12 system is struggling. If more children came to the K-12 system ready to learn, we'd have much higher achievement at grade 3 and beyond! It is imperative that we get young children and their families ready to learn.

With over 50% of children in the DOE system needing special services, why are we not investing early and getting the children the assistance they need while their young brains are still developing? Again, the children are not ready to learn when they enter kindergarten and offering all 4 year olds preschool, will ensure a safety net for that child, even if their circumstances are not great.

75% of reported cases of abuse and neglect involve children 0-5. We need to ensure we are supporting our youngest amongst us and ensuring they receive early opportunities to succeed. A statewide early learning program for 4 year olds is a critical piece of this puzzle.

Only 11 states do not have a statewide learning system- we cannot continue to remain at the bottom!

We cannot continue to systematize marginalization. We have Head Start for the most vulnerable children and we have private preschools for our middle and high-income brackets. Our system does not support the majority within those extremes and our communities pay for it through taxing our DOE system, our Judicial system and our Social Services.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Respectfully, Kerrie Urosevich

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kurosevich@familyhui.org

First Name: Kerrie

Last Name: Urosevich

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Kiana Shiroma [kianak@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 29, 2013 9:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB1084, SB1093, and SB1095

Dear House Committee on Finance,

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Kiana Yasuyo Shrioma.

I am submitting my request for the early childhood bills regarding School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education to be supported on behalf of my three-year old daughter, Samantha Etsuko Shiroma.

My husband, Grant Isamu Shiroma, and I were born and raised in Kailua. We are the proud products of the public education system here. I am actually still a student, as I am a Ph.D. student in Educational Administration at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM). I also work at UHM as an academic advisor for the Honors and Regents and Presidential Scholars Programs. Grant works in construction. Both of us have been working for the same employers for over 10 years. Although we were well aware of the extremely high cost of living here on the Windward side, there is no where else in the world where we would rather be or raise our daughter in.

Being the planner that I am, we married soon after I earned my M.A. in Speech in 2008 and gave birth to Sammie in 2009. Shortly after, we bought a small townhouse in Kahaluu. Fortunately, my mother retired to watch Sammie and is still doing so today. During this time, we have been saving up money, not to pay for college, but to save for one year of preschool for Sammie! This has been extremely hard to do, especially this past year, when Grant was unexpectedly laid off for over three months. To be able to earn more money, I have been teaching Honors courses during the summer, which unfortunately means less time I have to spend with Sammie.

Imagine my horror when I found out that Sammie is now unable to attend kindergarten for another year of paying more than \$600 a month, a year that we did not anticipate or plan for. Our lower-middle class status is so frustrating in that we do not qualify for need-based support, but are scraping by just to pay for one year of preschool, despite being hard working and committed employees. I really do not know what to do. Sammie is accepted for preschool for June, but we are considering pushing it back so we can save more for this additional year of preschool, which means at least \$7,200 more. What is the most frustrating for us is that Sammie and all of the other children her age are the ones who will suffer due to circumstances and events out of their control. It is MY duty as her mommy to speak out for her and to be her voice.

Thus, my request for you is to make sure that this injustice does not happen and that our future generations are supported so they can succeed in the future. Every day, as an academic advisor of UHM's Honors Program, I see a huge divide between Hawaii and mainland students and an even greater divide between public and private school graduates, which probably can be attributed to the lack of state support for the education of Hawaii's keiki. Please do not widen this divide. I am not asking for a free ride. I am just asking for financial support so we can stretch our money enough so that Sammie can attend preschool and start her education on an equal level with her peers.

Thank you so much for your time, effort, and support. I know that you will make the right decision for our future generations of Hawaii.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns or require further clarification.

Sincerely,

Kiana Y. Shiroma
47-389 Hui Iwa St., Apt. 2
Kaneohe, HI 96744
[808-542-6191](tel:808-542-6191) (c) / [808-956-0756](tel:808-956-0756) (w)

FINTestimony

From: Kimberley Limasa [klimasa@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:21 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kimberley Limasa from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): klimasa@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Kimberley

Last Name: Limasa

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

FINTestimony

From: Kimberly Hokama [skyybluebabe808@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kimberly Hokama from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): skyybluebabe808@aol.com

First Name: Kimberly

Last Name: Hokama

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

FINTestimony

From: Lawrence Bennett [lbennett27@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lawrence Bennett from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lbennett27@gmail.com

First Name: Lawrence

Last Name: Bennett

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96839

Testimony of Lei Ann Mamala

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

as an educator (DOE) I understand the importance of early education for a child's social, behavioral, and academic growth and development. It would be amazing to have most or even all children ready to begin their educational careers prepared.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Lei Ann Mamala

Ph or Email: leiannyocom@yahoo.com

Signature: Lei Ann Mamala

FINTestimony

From: Levani Lipton. [levani.rachel@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:22 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Levani Lipton. from Kailua, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me personally because I had the opportunity to attend preschool. It greatly enriched my life as a young child growing up in Waimanalo. A statewide early childhood learning program would prepare children for school and greatly help teachers in the classroom to not have to catch students up who are behind in basic learning skills. Investing in our children's pre-primary education is an investment in our state. The return on investment can be seen through studies that relate to lower incarceration rates, few drop-outs, and employment rates. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would also increase access to these programs and make them more affordable for parents. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is a significant way we can help reduce social inequality. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Mahalo for your consideration and for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): levani.rachel@gmail.com

First Name: Levani

Last Name: Lipton.

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

FINTestimony

From: Linda Lee [linlee3@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:21 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Linda Lee from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): linlee3@mac.com

First Name: Linda

Last Name: Lee

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Lindsay Schoenecke [lschoenecke@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:34 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lindsay Schoenecke from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lschoenecke@gmail.com

First Name: Lindsay

Last Name: Schoenecke

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96818

FINTestimony

From: Lorraine Bennett [lorrainebennett@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:18 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lorraine Bennett from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lorrainebennett@yahoo.com

First Name: Lorraine

Last Name: Bennett

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

Testimony of Lou-Ann N. Adams

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness

S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education

& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: grandmas and grandpas deserve to have their grandchildren receive an early education from newborn to age 5. Preparing our grandchildren for readiness into elementary school helps build their mental skills, social skills, and emotional skills. The self-esteem of our children and their ability to develop their brain by learning through block building, sorting and sequential patterning, and most importantly reading, writing, and math is the beginning stepping stones in creating a successful human being. This will create an easy transition into elementary learning and successful progression into secondary and post high school learning. Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation. The ultimate goal would be for our grandchildren to enter early education with their sites on entering college.

Name: Lou-Ann N. Adams

Ph or Email: luanac@hawaii.rr.com

Signature: Lou-Ann N. Adams

FINTestimony

From: Lynn Cabato [cabatol002@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:41 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Lynn Cabato from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. Decades of rigorous research proves that investing in quality early education yeilds substantial returns in higher education attainment, improved health outcomes, and economic prosperity. Children who participate in early education programs who develop school readiness skills are less likely to need special education services or drop out of school and more likely to become productive members of the workforce. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development.

Early childhood education is one of the most cost-effective investmens we can make. These programs help ensure success in school, work, and life for all of our children, especially low-income children. These services are critical for parents, too, both to increase their participation in the workforce and provide them with support and information to enance their own parenting in partnership with the programs. Parents depend on these programs to continue working.

Early care and education is being recognized as an important economic sector in its own right, and as a critical piece of social infrastructue that supports children's development and facilitates parents' employment. Investments in quality childcare and early childhood education do more than pay significant returns to children-our future citizens. They also enhance economic vitality. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice with state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cabatol002@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Lynn

Last Name: Cabato

City: Mililani
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 5:51 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mhoy_9092@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Margaret Hoy | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I am writing opposing this bill. Giving public funds to private programs takes away from the public funding and resources needed to make public school students, teachers and schools successful. Thank you for your consideration of my concern.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

FINTestimony

From: Maria Uyeunten [mariamonsell@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:54 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Maria Uyeunten from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mariamonsell@gmail.com

First Name: Maria

Last Name: Uyeunten

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826

FINTestimony

From: Marlene Perez Perez [shukar60@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:47 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Marlene Perez Perez from waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): shukar60@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Marlene Perez

Last Name: Perez

City: waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: melanie padgett [melanieandjamie@live.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:39 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

melanie padgett from pukalani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

I am in full support of this legislation which will ensure that children affected by the ending of Jr K will still have affordable access to quality care and education, relieving families who are already struggling to make it from having to pay as much for another year of care.

Thank You for Supporting This Crucial Legislation,

Melanie Padgett

189 Makaena Place

Pukalani, HI 96768

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): melanieandjamie@live.com

First Name: melanie

Last Name: padgett

City: pukalani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96768

Testimony of Melissa Giuffre

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: every child should have the opportunity to attend pre-school, getting them ready for Kindergarten, as my son is next fall

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Melissa Giuffre

Ph or Email: 397-0153

Signature: Melissa Giuffre

FINTestimony

From: Mindy Bailey [mimi277@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 10:17 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Mindy Bailey from Wahiawa, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mimi277@aol.com

First Name: Mindy

Last Name: Bailey

City: Wahiawa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96786

FINTestimony

From: monica dacosin [monicamond@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:19 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

monica dacosin from kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): monicamond@yahoo.com

First Name: monica

Last Name: dacosin

City: kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

Testimony of Nancy Lorenzo

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

I do feel that the younger the child
the better it is to set the foundation
in their mind of learning.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Nancy Lorenzo

Ph or Email: lorenz005@hawaii.rr.com

Signature: 

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:11 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: nikan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nikan Arapoff | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: Voucher systems violate the separation of church and state, and subsidize private enterprise. Respectfully, Nikan Arapoff

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

FINTestimony

From: Nohealani LenWai [nohea.lenwai@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Nohealani LenWai from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): nohea.lenwai@gmail.com

First Name: Nohealani

Last Name: LenWai

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817

FINTestimony

From: Pamela Clegg [pclegg7@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Pamela Clegg from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): pclegg7@yahoo.com

First Name: Pamela

Last Name: Clegg

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Paula Moriguchi [paulotiguchi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Paula Moriguchi from Waimea, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): paulotiguchi@yahoo.com

First Name: Paula

Last Name: Moriguchi

City: Waimea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96796

April 1, 2013

Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2013

House Finance Committee

Conference Room 308, 2 p.m.

In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1; 1093 SD2 HD1; and 1095 SD2 HD1

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair,
House Committee on Finance

Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING
TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS.

Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members:

My name is Phyllis Ida and I am a retired DOE Special Educator, and the former 619 Coordinator for the Windward District. I also over see the grant administration for the Windward District P-3 Demonstration Project that focuses on keiki reading on grade level by third grade, providing model program of seamless early learning experiences from early childhood programs through elementary school for young children in the Windward District.

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1.

We have a plethora of research that demonstrates the benefit quality early learning experiences have on young children, including:

- A high financial return on early learning investment. According to the Good Beginnings Alliance, for every \$1 invested in quality early learning programs, Hawai'i receives an approximate \$4 investment. This return on investment includes, but is not limited to, higher retention rates; lower teen pregnancy/parent rates; higher college entrance numbers; and less money spent on incarceration. In today's economy no bank, savings and loan or high interest bearing CD will

provide that kind of return on investment. Investing in young children up front is a sound investment in Hawai'i's future.

- Higher retention and graduation rates
- Lower teen pregnancy/parent rates

According to the public will campaign, Be My Voice Hawaii, the State currently invest more money on our prison system than it does on early learning.

If we want Hawai'i to be the Aloha State, we need to show Aloha to our keiki by investing in their education and supporting components (i.e., screening, early intervention, etc.) upfront. By doing so, we invest in future of Hawai'i.

The time to invest in our keiki is now. Hawai'i cannot wait any longer. The Aloha State deserves better. Our keiki deserve better.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1.

Testimony of Richard Chretien

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education
& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 pm

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because: Kids are our future
and our future caretakers of this state & country

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Richard Chretien

Ph or Email: RCHRETIEN60@yahoo.com

Signature: 

FINTestimony

From: Roy Agpaoa [ragpaoa@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:23 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Roy Agpaoa from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ragpaoa@hawaii.edu

First Name: Roy

Last Name: Agpaoa

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

FINTestimony

From: sandra walz garcia [sandra.w.garcia@navy.mil]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:56 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

sandra walz garcia from kalaheo, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sandra.w.garcia@navy.mil

First Name: sandra

Last Name: walz garcia

City: kalaheo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96741

FINTestimony

From: Sara Neves [saran@hcapweb.org]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:57 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Sara Neves from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): saran@hcapweb.org

First Name: Sara

Last Name: Neves

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822

FINTestimony

From: Shaley DeGiorgio [shaley@grocken.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 11:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Shaley DeGiorgio from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1.

I grew up in Kaneohe, in a Japanese family. We were poor and my stepfather struggled with drug addiction. I witnessed things, as I grew up, that I'd never wish on anyone – paranoia, threats, theft, kidnapping, violence, mental abuse, denial, anguish, desperation.

We lived on welfare. We moved almost once per year. I attended public school, but it was not prioritized. I was told college was a waste of time and that my goal in life should be to find a man. We were homeless my sophomore year in high school – homeless the entire year.

I'm here, because I am the proof of the potential of the children you are affecting. I stand before you as a testament to the power of education.

I was tracked in school to lower-level classes. I was pushed through with Cs and Ds. I could have done better – I knew it – but why bother. My goal was to survive and get out. Get away and change my life – to make something better of myself.

I believed it was possible – but why is that? What was it that kept me believing all those years? Why wasn't the potential beaten out of me by circumstance?

How can you give hope to the many children in similar situations? Give them schooling as young as you can. At a minimum, give them pre-k and at best, provide universal preschool.

I attended preschool and I believe that spending those formative years in school helped build my confidence and gave me the strength to persevere, even though everything else in my life pushed me in the other direction. I had a thread of hope; that's something some families just can't give their children. It's a horrible reality, but it must be recognized if we're to change things for the better in the long run.

The truth is that the children who need it the most will be MOST affected by any policy that keeps children out of public schools. They are the children who need mentors and friends, and safety, and food, and opportunities for tactile projects, and music, language, and play. They are the children whose parents won't be able to provide; the ones who will sit in front of the television and waste away if someone doesn't intervene.

By intervening, you are sending these children a message. You're telling them they are worth it, they are a priority, they are valued. They're too young now, but there will be a day when they'll look back and this decision will be remembered. It's your duty to the public to make decisions that demonstrate you believe - it's your responsibility to do everything in your power to ensure these children believe in themselves.

It's imperative, because you have no idea the potential each of these children have. You have the unique privilege of a profession that, despite a lack of familial or friendship relationships, can directly affect the confidence and potential of generations of children to come.

Ultimately, this is a question of potential, isn't it? We are asking, is it worth investing in children whose families can't afford to invest in their own children themselves? This is a matter of public debate, and it'll continue to be so for as long as civilization persists.

To demonstrate potential - again, I lay my life before you. There is no reason, if you look back at my childhood in general, that I should be standing here. Nothing, except perhaps the love for my mother and sisters, that would have indicated I'd amount to anything more than a drain on society, a burden, a liar, a thief, or an addict. But, I'm none of those things.

Something in my past - I believe it was early childhood education - gave me the confidence to beat the odds. It gave me respite and learning at a time when my mind was developing the most. It provided me with a chance to develop relationships with people who hadn't yet given up on my potential. Early childhood education is transformative. It's a fork in the road between a life with limited choices where people feel disenfranchised, unvalued, and imprisoned, versus a life where people feel the opportunity to pursue a meaningful existence.

In 1999, I graduated with honors from Hudson Valley Community College in NY. I figured out that with a two-year degree, it didn't matter that my SAT scores were terrible. In 2004, I graduated with honors with a Bachelor's of Science, and a full academic scholarship from Oregon State University.

In 2005, I took a job developing software training for faculty and staff at Cornell University in New York. In 2008, I transferred to Communications for Cornell Information

Technologies. And, I still work for Cornell University now – from my home on Oahu. I am the only person, of about 300 central Cornell IT staff, who telecommutes full time, and from such a long distance.

I am currently shattering perceptions that a person has to live and work in the same place. I am collaborating with Cornell HR to develop a remote work program for the whole of Cornell University, so that staff and faculty can have more flexibility, and Cornell can move with the speed of business that is a necessary if the university wishes to persist as a leader among education and research.

I've managed to hold my own and grow as an individual over the last few years, despite challenges of being at a distance for the last two years, and despite layoffs in central IT at Cornell that displaced nearly one quarter of all our staff. I am a senior member of Cornell University's IT Communications team – on call 24/7 for emergency communications about everything from data security breaches to IT service outages.

It hasn't been all rainbows and sunshine. But, through it all, I've persisted. I am strong. I am a perfect example of the potential waiting in the children we are advocating for today.

I am the children's voice.

From the bottom of my heart, and with my niece and nephews in mind – all of them the critical age we are discussing today – I recommend that you start children off with schooling as soon as possible and give them a foundation they can build upon. Don't think of these children as the hopeless – think of them as the untapped potential who, if they persist, will be stronger than you'd ever expect. Give them schooling as early as you can, without hesitation, because it will increase their odds of success significantly. Be the voice I always wished for when I was a little girl – assure all children in Hawaii that they are valued and demonstrate with your vote that you believe they are a critical piece of a brighter Hawaii tomorrow.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): shaley@grocken.com

First Name: Shaley

Last Name: DeGiorgio

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:47 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: shanae.hatchell@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shanae Hatchell | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: I am opposed to this bill because it allows public funds to be used for private programs. Although early education is important, the use of public funds in this case is not a good idea.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

FINTestimony

From: Shantell Rios [mizsassy@hawaiiantel.net]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Shantell Rios from Kaneohe, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mizsassy@hawaiiantel.net

First Name: Shantell

Last Name: Rios

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744

FINTestimony

From: Stacey Yoshida [pinkbutterfly670@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:06 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Stacey Yoshida from Pearl City, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): pinkbutterfly670@gmail.com

First Name: Stacey

Last Name: Yoshida

City: Pearl City

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96782

FINTestimony

From: Susan Lynn Rosaldo [waipahu@kamaainakids.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Susan Lynn Rosaldo from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): waipahu@kamaainakids.com

First Name: Susan Lynn

Last Name: Rosaldo

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797

FINTestimony

From: Susie Shim [susaneshim@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:46 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Susie Shim from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): susaneshim@yahoo.com

First Name: Susie

Last Name: Shim

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96821

Testimony of Suzi Smith

In Support of bills

S.B. 1093 SD2 HD1 Related to School Readiness

S.B. 1095 SD2 HD1 Related to Early Childhood Education

& S.B. 1084 SD1 HD1 Related to Constitutional Amendment

Addressed to House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, April 02, 2013

Time: 2:00 PM

Room: 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting my testimony on the early childhood bills before you related to School Readiness, the Constitutional Amendment and Early Childhood Education.

I am a strong supporter of this legislation because:

children need to better prepared to enter kindergarten. With ^{the} ~~no~~ child left behind act, children who are better prepared (~~academically~~ ^{socially}) are being held back with the other students who are not. The school system then ~~sets~~ sets them up for failure. Thus, no choice but to pay \$\$\$ for private education.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and hope that you continue to move forward with this vital legislation.

Sincerely,

Name: Suzi Smith

Ph or Email: suziyamasaki@hotmail.com

Signature: 

911056 Laanui St
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

FINTestimony

From: Tamara Jackson [tamara.d.jackson@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:04 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Tamara Jackson from Ewa Beach, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): tamara.d.jackson@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Tamara

Last Name: Jackson

City: Ewa Beach
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96706

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 30, 2013 12:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: sfreitag@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Teri Freitag | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: I have been a teacher for 37 years and it would be nice if all students came to school prepared to learn, not just Kindergarten students but high school students as well. I am opposed to paying private preschools from public funds as it removes needed funding from our all ready strapped classrooms. Many of my incoming freshmen are not prepared to meet the rigors of high school and the money would be well spent in requiring them to attend a summer school session designed to up their reading, mathematical and writing skills to the 8th grade level before they could be promoted to high school. Research shows that students who do not have preschool in their background make up the difference by 3rd grade and therefore any benefits from preschool are then lost. It would be a better use of our funding to either do public preschool where teachers have control over the skills being taught or use the money to ensure that all students being promoted have the necessary skills to be promoted.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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FINTestimony

From: Teri Skillman [skillman@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 1:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Teri Skillman from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood learning program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. For example, we know that 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of 5. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 SD2 HD1 and SB 1095 SD2 HD1 would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. Hawaii has always prided itself as a place that strives to level the playing field for its citizens - this is one way we can help make that happen at the earliest and most important time. We also know that now, more than ever, Hawaii's voters support a public role in helping parents send their four-year-olds to the preschool program of their choice; nearly 75% of registered voters support state funding for a public-private preschool system in Hawaii. Now, more than ever, it is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of these measures.

Form Data:

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First Name: Teri

Last Name: Skillman

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96819

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 31, 2013 11:49 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kolohee@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1084 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

SB1084

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Toni Hall | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments: As a teacher, I have supported many of the bills that have passed through the House and Senate which deal with education - but this is a bill that I have to oppose. I understand that there is a need of early childhood education - I see the lack of it every day in our schools, but I do not believe that this is the way to go about solving that need. To follow this route is to open ourselves to the use of public funds for private education - meaning vouchers. And, while I do not have objections to anyone receiving a private education, I do have objections to public funding of private religious education - and this bill will open that door. This door to using public funds for private education should be closed and other solutions for this dilemma should be found.

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FINTestimony

From: Wayne Watkins [wwatkins@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2013 12:08 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: In Support of SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Wayne Watkins from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair, Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Finance Re: Support for SBs 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, and Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084 SD1 HD1, 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. As an early childhood educator for over 35 years I have seen first-hand the positive effects for children and families when the child participates in a quality early childhood program. In my early years as a preschool teacher I worked primarily with children from low-income households. Prior to having access to a quality early childhood program these children regularly scored lowest on all elementary assessments. But once quality preschool was available that all changed for the better.

For the past 8 years as the director of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Children's Center I have watched many children enter our program having no English and within just a few months in our language-rich early childhood program they are well on the way to being proficient with both their home language and English. We need access for quality early childhood education for all of Hawaii's four-year-olds.

Over twenty years ago then Governor Waihee proposed "Universal Preschool" for Hawaii keiki. If we had followed through with that vision then Hawaii would have led the nation in this effort. As it is not there are 39 other states with early childhood programs. Let's not be the last state to move on this opportunity.

I strongly urge you to move on this fantastic opportunity.

Thank You,

Wayne Watkins

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Email 1 (Primary): wwatkins@hawaii.edu

First Name: Wayne

Last Name: Watkins

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822