



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.

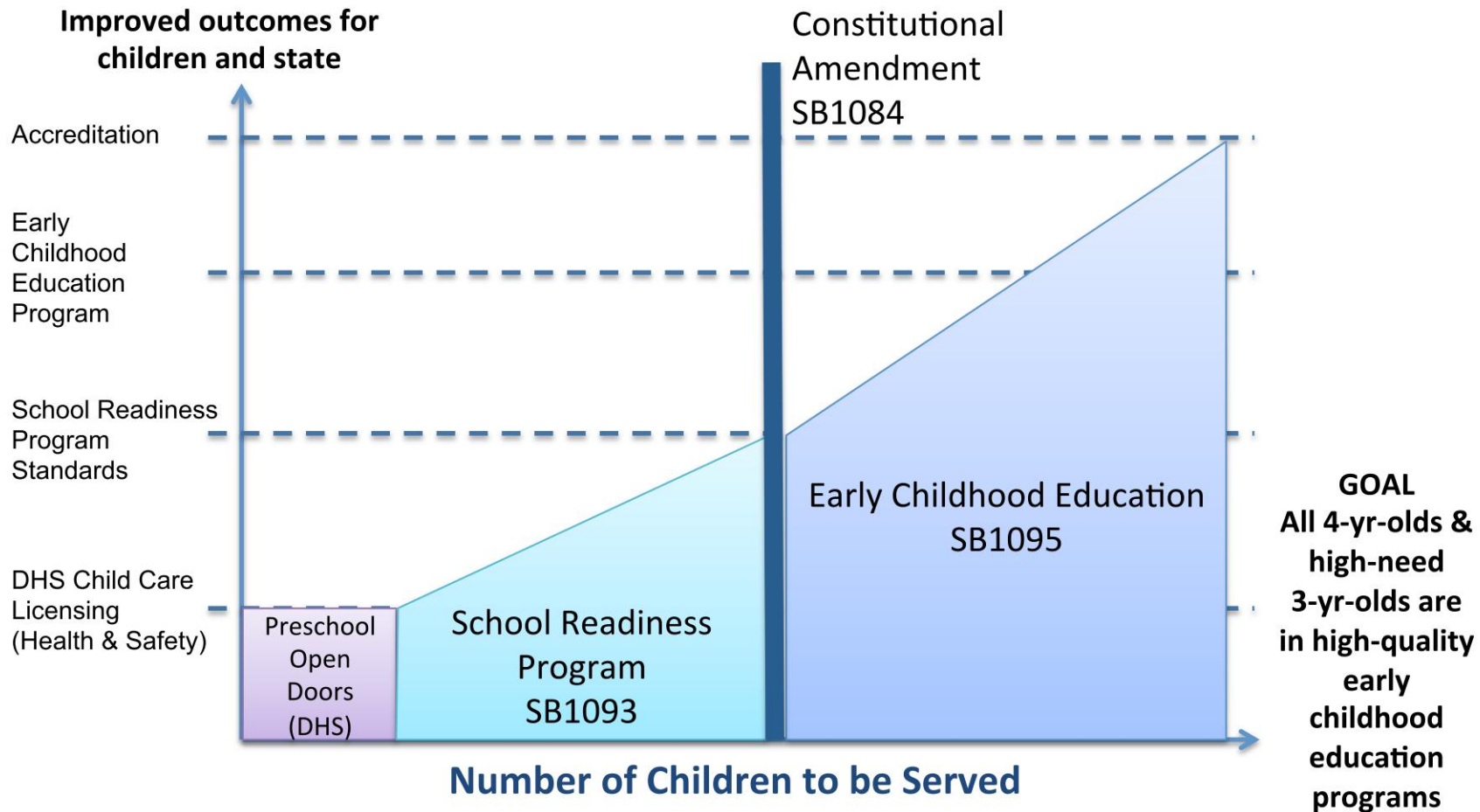
- **Phase 1 - Establishment of the School Readiness Program (S.B. 1093)**

- 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



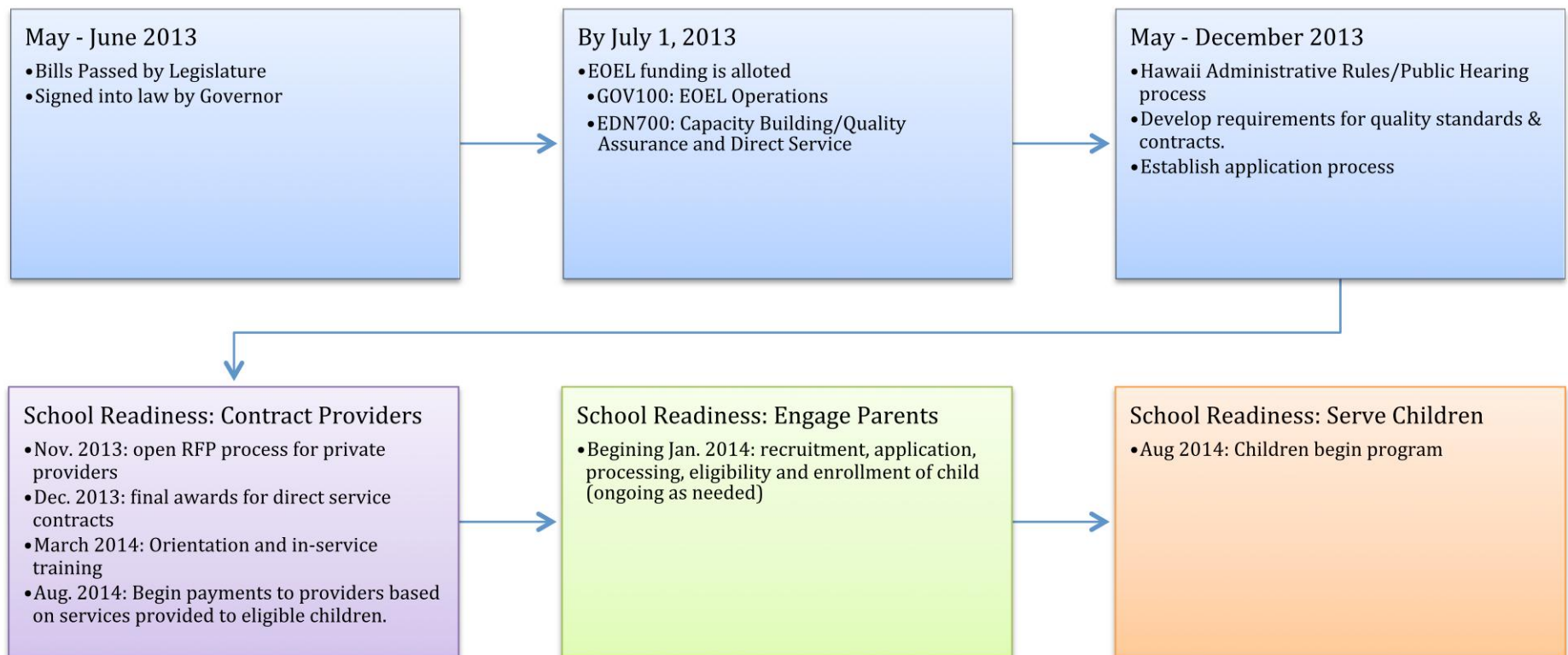
<b>Timeline</b>	FY14 ending 6/30/2014	Services to be provided via contracts for FY15, beginning 7/1/2014.	Nov. 2014 Election	Services to be provided via contracts issued after the Constitutional amendment
<b>Budget</b>	\$1.6 M/yr. for subsidies	FY14 \$3.5M for startup & admin. (GOV100 & EDN700)  FY15 \$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**

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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.<sup>1</sup> 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:

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<sup>1</sup> 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  
Page 7

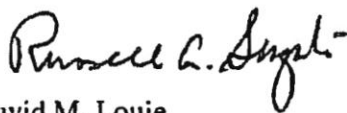
Under this reasoning, we believe article X, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution prohibits the use of public funds to pay for private early childhood education programs. As noted above, it is anticipated that the majority of the participating private early childhood education programs will be private preschools. Such private programs would be in direct competition with those public schools that currently have preschool, pre-kindergarten, or junior kindergarten programs.<sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>2</sup> 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.





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 1095,SD2,HD1 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System. (SB1095 HD1)

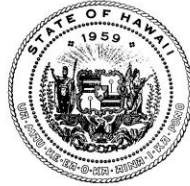
**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 1095,SD2,HD1. 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.

Hawaii's Early Childhood Program will offer children statewide access to quality early learning opportunities. The Department is poised to work with the Executive Office on Early Learning in their efforts to promote school readiness initiatives to prepare Hawaii's young children physically, cognitively, linguistically, socially, and emotionally the year before they enter public school kindergarten.

The Department also supports effective school readiness activities for incoming kindergarten students that do not adversely impact the fiscal priorities set forth in the Department's budget.





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

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

House Committee on Finance

S.B1095, SD2, HD1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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

April 2, 2013

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

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

**Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this measure is to implement a statewide early childhood education program that will be administered by the Executive Office on Early Learning upon ratification of the amendment to Article X, Section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution whereby private schools will be eligible to receive public funds for early childhood education. The intent of this program is to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children can graduate from high school prepared for college and career. This legislation affirms the positive effects of high-quality early childhood education on the physical, cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional outcomes of young children. It also recognizes that if children are provided opportunities for early childhood education, they are more likely to succeed and grow into healthy, capable and contributing adults. The Early Learning Program is designed for three- and four-year old children, especially the underserved and at-risk children. The Department of Health shares in this belief as it recognizes the importance serving all children but especially those who are vulnerable based on the social determinants of health which are the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age. These circumstances are shaped by the

*Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness*

1 distribution of money, power, and resources at global, national and local levels. The social determinants  
2 of health are mostly responsible for inequities and disparities which this Early Learning Program is  
3 trying to address by providing an early childhood education program to families in support of their  
4 children. The Department also considers the lifecourse approach where research documents the  
5 important role early life events play in shaping an individual's health and education trajectory.

6 The DOH supports the Executive Office on Early Learning's Early Learning Program as it will  
7 help efforts to improve the comprehensive early childhood system in Hawaii. We look forward to  
8 working with the Executive Office on Early Learning to ensure that this is a program that supports  
9 children and families throughout the state.

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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 (SB) 1095, SENATE DRAFT (SD) 2, HOUSE DRAFT (HD) 1  
RELATING TO  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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 SB1095, SD2, HD1 establishing the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System.

Every year PSD submits a report to the U.S. National Reporting System regarding the Educational Functioning Level of incarcerated offenders voluntarily receiving educational services testing. In FY 2012, the report reflected 568 offenders (21%) functioning at an educational level of third grade or less (Adult Basic Education I), 858 (32 %) at fourth to fifth grade level (Adult Basic Education II), 508 (19%) at six to eighth grade level (Adult Basic Education III), 391 (15%) at eight to tenth grade level (Adult Basic Education IV), and 322 (12%) at tenth grade or higher functioning level.

PSD acknowledges that by providing opportunities for quality early childhood education, children are more likely to achieve higher levels of educational attainment and grow into successful contributing members of the community as adults. On the other hand, the lack of this foundation is associated with negative social indicators, such as criminality and incarceration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

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. 1095 Senate Draft 2 House Draft 1**  
**Relating to Early Childhood Education**

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

TO CHAIRPERSON SYLVIA LUKE AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. 1095 S.D. 2 H.D. 1. The purpose of this measure is to implement, upon its ratification, the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, by establishing a statewide early childhood education program consisting of providers of high-quality early childhood education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children graduate from high school prepared for either a path to higher education or a career.

The Department of Human Resources Development strongly supports this bill. We believe the proposed measure will help ensure that when the constitutional amendment passes our State is prepared to implement a statewide early childhood education program.

Keiki who have access to high-quality early childhood education 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 of S.B. 1095 S.D. 2 H.D. 1.



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
[www.hawaii.gov/labor](http://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. 1095 SD2HD1 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations strongly supports SB1095 SD2HD1, which establishes the early childhood education program within the early learning system. 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 establishment of an early childhood education program within the early learning system will improve the quality of our workforce in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB1095 SD2HD1.

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1095 SD2 HD1  
A BILL RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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 SB 1095 SD2 HD1.

SB 1095 SD2 HD1 will establish a statewide early childhood education program within the early learning system administered by the Executive Office of Early Learning. This program will lay a strong foundation for our youth as they move through the educational process toward higher education and a resulting career.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.





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. 1095, S.D.2, H.D.1 - RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION**

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

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of S.B. 1095, S.D.2, H.D.1, is to implement, upon its ratification, the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, by establishing a statewide early childhood education program consisting of providers of high-quality early childhood education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) 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. 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.

The proposed statewide early childhood education program would provide services on a sliding fee scale to all eligible children and provide families and children access to high-quality early childhood education programs whose curricula will be aligned with the Department of Education's Common Core Standards. The statewide early childhood education program would include curricula that addresses children's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional development and provide families and children access to high-quality education programs with professional staff and optimal staff to child ratios. In addition, participating programs would be provided with opportunities for support and resources to continuously improve their program standards and on-going opportunities for staff professional development.

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



***TESTIMONY OF TRUSTEE DANIEL C. AHUNA III***

**SB 1095 SD2 HD1**

**RELATING TO SCHOOL READINESS**

House Committee on Finance

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

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

**I am Dan Ahuna and I write today in support of SB 1095 SD2 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 establish the Early Childhood Education Program. Together with SB 1084 SD1 HD1 and SB 1093 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 1095 SD2 HD1.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.



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

**RE: SB 1095, SD2 HD1– Relating to Early Childhood Education**

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

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 1095, SD2 HD1 – Relating to Early Childhood Education

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

## **Legislative Testimony**

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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 1095 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

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

The University of Hawai'i supports SB 1095 SD2 HD1 that establishes a statewide early childhood education program within the early learning system administered by the Executive Office of Early Learning. The program would prepare children for school; provide access to high-quality early childhood education; and align with K-12 standards to facilitate seamless educational experiences for children.

Given that numerous studies have shown the link between quality early childhood education, children's readiness to enter school, and subsequent school and adult outcomes, it is vitally important that early education address the multiple aspects of children's developmental needs and include standards and practices that are shown by research to be tied to better outcomes.

The University of Hawai'i recognizes that our own effectiveness as the state's public higher education system relies on the strength of the earliest foundations we establish for our youngest children. We therefore have been an active member of the Early Learning Advisory Board, and have consistently supported the establishment of an early learning system in Hawai'i and the kind of early education described in SB 1095 SD2 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

6770 Hawaii Kai Drive, #709  
Honolulu, HI 96825  
April 1, 2013

Dear representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

As a professor of linguistics with special expertise in the field of language acquisition, I have long been familiar with the Punana Leo and its heartening success in bringing the Hawaiian language back from the brink of extinction, narrowing averting what would have been a cultural tragedy.

The proposed amendments will help make our state a world leader in the field of indigenous education by recognizing that a distinct pathway is needed for teacher training, standards, and assessments relating to early childhood education involving our endangered Native American languages.

I also support the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college, which is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, during the time that the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

In sum, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,

William O'Grady  
Professor of Linguistics  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Finance Committee  
April 2, 2013  
By  
Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a  
Director, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College  
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

**RE: SB 1095 SD2 HD1, SB 1093 SD2 HD1**  
**Support IF AMENDED FOR HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE MEDIUM**

Aloha Representative Luke and members of the House Finance Committee:

I am Dr. Keiki Kawai'ae'a, founder of the Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education Program at UH-Hilo and Director of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College. Through its many programs, outreach efforts and partnerships Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College focuses on a full P-20 system of education called ho'ona'auao mauili ola Hawai'i. I write to strongly urge you to amend SB 1095 and SB 1093 as per the attached important wording provided by the 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is the sole statewide provider of Hawaiian language medium pre-schooling. The children from Pūnana Leo preschools feed into the statewide system of schools taught through Hawaiian serving over 2,200 children statewide this year. The Pūnana Leo receives no source of support for the distinctive needs of preschool education through Hawaiian other than our college. On the other hand, English medium preschools have a wide range of support available from entities in Hawai'i and elsewhere.

In 1987 the State Legislature mandated that a Hawaiian language college be established at UH-Hilo. Since then our college has become the most developed P-20 program in an indigenous language in the United States. The amendments suggested by the 'Aha Pūnana Leo will assure the state of high quality preschools through Hawaiian and allow for us to further develop already strong ties with major universities and indigenous education efforts throughout the world.

We have always worked closely with the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, and have incorporated the statewide Pūnana Leo preschool system of 11 sites into our state mandated laboratory school system. The only other preschool through Hawaiian in the state is one currently funded through a limited duration federal grant at another Hawaiian language laboratory school of our college.

The amendments provided by the 'Aha Pūnana Leo are consistent with existing state and federal legislation that provide for different policies for education through Hawaiian and other Native American languages. They are also consistent with efforts by tribal groups in other states to seek assistance from the faculty of our college in assuring high quality education through Native American languages when the individual states in which they live lack standards, training programs, and assessments designed for their specific languages. The laboratory program of Ka Haka 'Ula has assisted schools teaching through the Navajo, Ojibwe and Blackfeet languages among others as well as Hawaiian.

As Hawaiian is an official language of the state of Hawai'i, it is crucial that our state recognize this special need and provide a distinctive pathway to assure quality early childhood education through Hawaiian. As an educator, a parent and now a grandparent of Hawaiian speaking children, and for the new generations of Hawaiian speaking children, I kindly ask for your support with the amended changes to SB 1095, SB 1093.

Mahalo ka ho'olohe 'ana mai.



**Lā Ho'olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room) Conference Room 308  
**Kōmike** (Committee) House Finance

**Pila** (Bill) SB1095, SD2 HD1  
**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Mana'o** (Position): **KĀKO'O ME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS Attached)**

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee

'O au 'o 'Ekekela Aiona, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo.  
My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo continues to support these early learning initiatives with amendments that clarify the context for early learning in our state with two official languages. These amendments will allow the ONLY statewide Pūnana Leo preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system AND to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce and curriculum development THROUGH its laboratory status under the Hawaiian Language College which has supported our efforts of Hawaiian language revitalization over the last 30 years and for which the specialized training, professional development, curriculum and Hawaiian language support is unavailable from the mainstream English preschool system.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is a non profit Native Hawaiian Education organization. We are the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. Our preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool through doctorate) Hawaiian Medium Education system. Pūnana Leo keiki are prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian. Several provisions of the state constitution as well as federal legislation call for special attention to the unique needs of teaching through Hawaiian. The state has been involved in developing quality education through Hawaiian since 1997, when the legislature established the Hawaiian language college with a mandate to serve education through Hawaiian with a laboratory school program. HRS 304A-1301 establishes the Hawaiian language college and a laboratory school program as a function of the college. The Pūnana Leo schools function as laboratory schools of the college.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo nui

‘Aha Pūnana Leo Amendments For Early Childhood Education	
SB 1095 SD2 HD1	
Amendments	Rationale
Sec. 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide early education program in both official languages of the state with distinctive attention to the endangered Hawaiian language, said program consisting of providers of ....	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai‘i Constitution Official Languages Article XV Section 4.</li> </ul>
<p>Sec. 2.</p> <p>302L Early chldhood education program (a)....</p> <p>(1) Prepare children for school and to actively participate in society with distinctive pathways for schooling through either of the two official state languages; and</p> <p>(2) Provide access to high-quality early childhood education, focused on equity, that addresses children’s physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development as well as Chapter X Section 4 of the State Constitution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•‘Aha Pūnana Leo established in 1983 E Ola Ka ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i_the Hawaiian language shall live.</li> <li>•Hawaiian language is medium of instruction.</li> <li>• ‘Aha Pūnana Leo is the only Hawaiian medium education (HME) statewide provider serving 250 keiki, 11 months, full day at 11 centers on Hawai‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu and Kaua‘i.</li> <li>•Hawai‘i is a national and international leader, and has the most successful model of endangered, indigenous language revitalization.</li> <li>•These amendments are relevant to the State of Hawai‘i’s Context for Early Learning</li> </ul>
<p>(b)...</p> <p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(c)...</p> <p>(d)... Eligible providers shall meet, or develop plans to meet, the distinctive Hawaiian and English medium standards established under the early....</p> <p>(e) The early childhood education program standards for English medium early education shall:</p>	<p>Language Matters. The National Academy of Sciences research on the Role of Language reveals that characteristics of a speaker’s language influence the quantitative skills of the child. Languages also differ in important ways in the clarity and consistency reflected in actual number names. The study found that speakers of languages whose number names are patterned after Chinese (like Hawaiian) are better able than speakers of English to represent numbers using base ten blocks and to perform other place value tasks.</p> <p>In addition to the advantage in the way Hawaiian represents mathematical concepts, the role of language also influences the rate of early reading acquisition. Hawaiian language has its advantages in its syllabic system of early reading. These are advantages of learning through Hawaiian language and for which distinct standards be adopted in the Early Education program.</p> <p><i>Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood:</i></p>

	<i>Paths Towards Excellence and Equity; National Academy of Sciences.</i>
<p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(f)...</p> <p>(g)...</p> <p>(h)...</p> <p><u>(i) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section all laboratory schools of the state Hawaiian language college shall:</u></p> <p><u>(1) qualify as part of the early childhood education program when serving children under the state minimum age for kindergarten enrollment; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) have their providers deemed eligible providers of the early childhood education program.</u></p>	<p>The ‘Aha Pūnana Leo preschools are laboratory schools of the state’s Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. As such, ‘APL has been working with the college in teacher recruitment, curriculum development, teacher training and professional development. The ECE framework for the state’s early education initiative is geared towards English language preschools. Policies that require participation based in the English language potentially disenfranchises Hawaiian speaking children and families and is harmful to the goal of Pūnana Leo which is the protection, promotion and revitalization of Hawaiian. This amendment will provide a safe harbor for HME to participate as provider while working towards building capacity of a workforce and moving closer towards a more complete equitable early learning system in a state with two official languages.</p>





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 1095, SD 2, HD 1 (Early Childhood Education)

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") offers comments on SB 1095, SD 2, HD 1, which proposes the establishment of a statewide early childhood education program.

In short, as currently drafted SB 1095, SD 2, HD 1, does not contain the requisite protections to ensure that: (1) the contemplated programs comply with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution ("Establishment Clause"), which, *inter alia*, prohibits state funding of religious indoctrination; and (2) the programs adequately safeguard against unlawful discrimination.

First, SB 1095, SD 2, HD 1 would allow direct funding to private educational providers, including those which are sectarian and religious in nature. This poses grave concerns under the Establishment Clause, and will almost certainly lead to litigation. The bill lacks the requisite guidelines to ensure that the programs and early childhood education providers are prohibited from engaging in discrimination, sectarian instruction, indoctrination, and other religious activities. If this bill passes in its current form, it is likely that religious programs and early childhood education providers will receive public funding, and the law would not prohibit those private providers from improperly discriminating against students, parents and staff members or utilizing educational spaces with religious iconography.

Moreover, the current bill does not provide adequate protections for a number of potentially applicable federal and state non-discrimination provisions, including, but not limited to: Title VI Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, or national origin; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, prohibiting discrimination based on sex; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and H.R.S. § 378-2 (regarding gender identity and sexual orientation). Further, the Hawaii Department of Education prohibits discrimination in hiring based on a broad range of categories, including race, sex, national origin, disability, and

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii  
P.O. Box 3410  
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[www.acluhawaii.org](http://www.acluhawaii.org)

sexual orientation, but private providers are far less likely to have such inclusive policies in place. As an example, with regard to students with disabilities, private institutions are currently neither required to nor likely to meet the needs of students with disabilities. Similarly, private institutions do not have to abide by the "least restrictive environment" requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Thus, these private providers could segregate students with disabilities from other students, perpetrating discrimination against these students and inhibiting their education.

To address the Establishment Clause and potential discrimination issues, the ACLU of Hawaii suggests the following amendments:

- Insert new (e) as follows (and renumber accordingly) (page 4, after line 21)

"(e) All private eligible providers as contemplated herein:

- (1) Shall not exclude a child based on the family's or child's religious beliefs or lack thereof;
- (2) Shall not be used to proselytize or attempt to persuade or convert children or their families to or from religion or a particular religious persuasion;
- (3) Shall not incorporate provider-sponsored prayer, worship, or other religious exercise, or religious indoctrination or instruction;
- (4) Shall not require children or their families or guardians to participate in faith-based or church-sponsored activities or services which are separate from the school readiness program; and
- (5) Shall not, when practicable, conduct the program in rooms that contain overt religious iconography, and shall, when practicable, cover religious iconography in rooms in which the program is conducted; and
- (6) Agree, by contract, that the provider of early childhood education programs shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sex, ancestry, sexual orientation, or disability in employment, admissions, or enrollment for the programs and services provided under this statute. "

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i  
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Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on  
Finance  
April 2, 2013  
Page 3 of 3

Finally, SB 1095, SD 2, HD 1 should be further amended to include assurances that the State will seek to monitor compliance with the above-mentioned anti-discrimination provisions. To that end, the ACLU of Hawaii suggests the following amendment:

- Subsection (h) (page 6, line 1): replace existing (h) (which should now be renumbered as subsection (i) with the following:

"the office shall, no later than December 31, 2015, adopt rules and regulations, pursuant to chapter 91, expressly addressing: (i) a provider's compliance with subsection d(4)'s anti-discrimination requirements; and (ii) reporting and monitoring requirements that ensure a provider's initial and continued compliance with subsections d(3) and d(4). Further, the office shall adopt other rules and regulations, pursuant to chapter 91, necessary to carry out the purposes of this section."

Although the ACLU fully supports high-quality early education and agrees that it is essential to childhood development and future performance, these publicly funded private programs must be developed in a way that protects against unintended (and unlawful) discrimination.

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.

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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Hawaii Island  
United Way

Maui United Way

Kauai United Way



April 2, 2013

**Testimony on SB 1095 Establishment of the Early  
Childhood Education Program**

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 SB 1095 that establishes a pre-school system of both pub-  
lic (DOE) and private early childhood education programs that meet higher levels of  
quality and emphasize educational outcomes for children. 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 Gover-  
nor'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 impor-  
tant 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.

Aloha,  
Howard S. Garval, President & CEO  
Child & Family Service

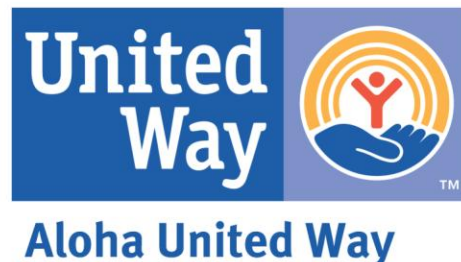
*Our Mission: Strengthening Families and Fostering the Healthy Development of Children*





## Aloha United Way

200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 700  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3938  
Telephone (808) 536-1951  
Fax (808) 543-2222  
Website: [www.auw.org](http://www.auw.org)



## Cover Sheet

**Testifying Agency:** Aloha United Way  
Norm Baker, Chief Operating Officer

### House Committee on Finance

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

**Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 2:00 P.M.**

**Conference Room 308**

**SB1095, SD2, HD1 (HSCR980): Relating to Early Childhood Education: Testimony in  
Strong Support**

## Aloha United Way

200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 700  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3938  
Telephone (808) 536-1951  
Fax (808) 543-2222  
Website: [www.auw.org](http://www.auw.org)



April 1, 2013

Committee on Finance

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 308

Re: SB 1095, SD2, HD1 (HSCR980) RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Honorable Chairs & Committee Members:

Aloha United Way supports SB1095, which, upon amending Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, establishes a statewide early childhood education program geared towards establishing a solid foundation for children's future educational and career success.

SB1095 is important because in an era of fiscal constraint, the State of Hawaii must use the collective impact of both public and private organizations to address the critical problem of preparing our keiki for school. Working as a community we can truly leverage the benefits of public-private partnerships.

Studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short-term and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1095 is the foundation to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also has the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. We urge your favorable consideration of SB1095.

Sincerely,



Norm Baker  
Chief Operating Officer



55 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

**HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH**  
Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

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 1095, SD2, HD1 Relating To Early Childhood Education**

**Testimony in Support**

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawai'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 Hawai'i'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. 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, and its focus on quality.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Affiliates of Hawai'i Pacific Health





ONLINE SUBMITTAL

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

**DATE:** April 1, 2013

**TO:** House Committee on Finance  
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Rep. Aaron Johanson, Vice Chair

**FROM:** Allen Cardines, Jr., Program Director

**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 HD 1 Early Childhood Education

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure. I am Allen Cardines, Jr, Program Director, **representing the Hawaii Family Forum**. Hawaii Family Forum is a non-profit, pro-family education organization committed to preserving and strengthening families in Hawaii, representing a network of various Christian Churches and various faith groups. Hawaii Family Forum represents several Christian denominations that provide early education in various communities. The early development and education for the keiki in Hawaii is very important to us and our community partners.

While we truly and sincerely appreciate the Governor's plan for a private-public partnership to provide non-compulsory quality pre-school education in Hawaii, we have serious concerns regarding the implementation process. Our concern stems from the continued arguments made by groups who promote "separation of church and state" and the ongoing attack on religious institutions in the state regarding the practice of their faith.

In order to satisfy the concerns of these groups, the Governor's Executive Office for Early Learning issued "talking points" for faith-based schools which indicate that the way the partnership could work is to "separate" secular and religious curriculums. Using these suggested criteria, pre-schools with deeply held religious tenets will be unable to participate because their religious values are an integral part of their educational environment.

I have personally met with several pastors and pre-school directors. While most of them are open to the discussion of providing these necessary services, many of them have also made it very clear that they will not allow governing restrictions that will tie their hands in the practice of their faith.

Although we support the intent of the proposed legislation because we deeply care about the keiki of Hawaii, for the reasons we have stated above, we must oppose these bills. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

## PRIVATE PROVIDERS IN THE STATE'S EARLY LEARNING SYSTEM

### HOW EOEL WILL PARTNER WITH PRIVATE PROVIDERS

For both the School Readiness and Early Childhood Education programs, EOEL will contract with private providers to deliver services to the target populations. The public-private model is one the Governor and EOEL are committed to, recognizing that the private sector makes up the backbone of the state's preschool services.

EOEL will form agreements with private providers if they can meet qualifying criteria\*\* such as:

- Qualifications for staff who work with children.
- Curriculum aligned with the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards (HELDS). The idea is that curriculum should come from research and evidence-based practices that lead to developmentally appropriate learning and growth for children.
- Data collection regarding participating children.
- Establishment of a quality improvement plan.

*\*\*Note: Contract terms are in development and must undergo a process of legal review and public comment before program implementation.*

### HOW FAITH-BASED PROGRAMS CAN PARTICIPATE

Faith-based programs are a critical part of Hawaii's preschool landscape. EOEL would like to work with faith-based providers to bring them into the State's early learning system as much as possible. At the same time, EOEL must work within legal parameters to do this. The proposed ConAm does not change issues surrounding the separation of church and State.

We know that contract terms will include guidelines that participating faith-based providers must adhere to. And there are existing practices in place that include faith-based organizations in government programs such as DHS' Preschool Open Doors and other social service programs.

There are also mechanisms that other states have employed to make it feasible for public funds to go to faith-based providers (ensuring that faith-based providers use state funds for "secular services for secular purposes on a religion-neutral basis" ).

- Some states offer a half-day alternative: religious content/materials cannot be used during the hours of the program that are paid for by State funding, but can be used in the remaining part of the day that would be paid for by the parents.
- Following are examples of guidelines from Connecticut's School Readiness Program that could be incorporated into Hawaii's early learning system:
  1. The program must be open to all children, and cannot exclude a child based on the family's religious creed or lack thereof;
  2. The program cannot be used to proselytize or attempt to persuade or convert children or their families to religion or a particular religious persuasion;
  3. The program may not contain religious observances, such as prayer, grace, confession, church attendance, religious instruction, etc.;
  4. The program must accommodate the practice of a child or staff member's personal religious beliefs where the practice is required during program hours; e.g. Islamic designated time for prayers;

5. The program may not require children or their families to participate in faith-based or church sponsored activities or services which are not part of the school readiness program;
  6. Programs may not discriminate in hiring based on religious affiliation or lack of religious affiliation; and
  7. Unless it is not practicable, classes should be conducted in rooms that are free of religious symbols and other religious items.
- Other states with state-funded programs that have tackled this issue. Examples of guidelines can be found via the Education Law Center – [Integrating Faith-Based Organizations into State-Funded Pre-K Programs: Resolving Constitutional Conflict](#).

[For PDF of this update, click here.](#)

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## Latest News

- [Exploring the Impact of Pre-Kindergarten on Children & Communities – INFOGRAPHIC](#)
- [Hawaii in Unique Position to Adopt Early Care and Education System via Star Advertiser](#)
- [Great Example of How Early Learning Lays the Foundation](#)

## EOEL Updates

- [V8: Implementation Timeline for School Readiness](#)
- [V7: Dispelling 9 Myths of Early Learning](#)
- [V6: Early Learning Program for Hawaii](#)





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

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**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 1095, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT  
1, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**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, with a proposed amendment for SB 1095, relating to early childhood education.

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 the use of public funds for early childhood education programs 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 amend this implementation legislation to prohibit public funds from being used to promote spiritual or faith-based doctrine, 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. Put simply, we do not want to see the state

wrapped up in costly litigation because of a misappropriation of funds to a program that oversteps its constitutional bounds by using public funds to promote a specific religious viewpoint, nor do we feel confident that early learning programs operated by religious or religious-affiliated schools will prevent the insertion of religious doctrine into early learning curricula. Our requested amendment can be enacted by inserting the following language into section 2, subsection (e)(1) of the bill: “Include research-based, developmentally appropriate, **secular** practices that are associated with better educational outcomes for children.”

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

Sincerely,  
Kris Coffield  
*Legislative Director*  
IMUAlliance

Testimony on SB1095 SD2 HD1 Relating to Early Childhood Education  
Committee on Finance  
Tuesday, April 2, 2013  
2:00 PM, State Capitol Conference Room 308

Testimony in SUPPORT of the INTENT of SB1095 SD2 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 1095 SD2 HD1 – Relating to Early Childhood Education**

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 SB1095 SD2 HD1** which establishes an early childhood education program, administered by the Executive Office on Early Learning, to prepare children for school and provide access to high quality early childhood education. This program will serve children ages three to four years of age with a priority for four year old children.

In 1995, Georgia was the first state to make a commitment to the implementation of universal pre-kindergarten within their education system. Their preschool pilot program began even earlier in 1992 and targeted 750 at-risk four-year olds. Three years later, the successful program opened up to all four-year-olds in the state, and by the 2010-2011 school year, enrollment reached 85,000 students. Nearly 20 years later, Hawaii lags behind Georgia and other states which have made early childhood education a priority.

Research shows that children who participate in early childhood education programs are more likely to succeed in kindergarten and beyond. Studies demonstrate that such programs are especially effective for at-risk children. These programs have the potential to alter at-risk children's lifetime trajectories for success. High quality early childhood education programs have immediate and long term benefits not only for the children, but also for the societies in which they live. Thus, it is important to have a statewide early childhood education program and we strongly urge you to pass SB1095 SD2 HD1 unamended.

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



**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 #308**

**DATE:** April 1, 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 -12<sup>th</sup> 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.





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 1095, SD2, HD1: Relating to Early Childhood Education.

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

SB 1095, SD2, HD1 establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System, effective upon the ratification of the proposed constitutional amendment permitting public funds for private early childhood education programs.

Hawaii P-20 supports this bill. As an organization that works in partnership with the Executive Office on Early Learning, the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii, Hawaii P-20 works to improve the educational pipeline and facilitates seamless educational experiences across systems. The research has shown that investing in early childhood education, especially that which is developmentally appropriate, leads to better educational, social and economic outcomes. It is not enough to provide childcare or babysitting services for young children; they need appropriate educational preparation to be successful in elementary school.

The Early Childhood Education Program must provide high-quality education to young children who were previously unable to afford access to pre-kindergarten educational services. We ask that the legislature not compromise on demanding that the Early Childhood Education Program emphasize proper preparedness of children for kindergarten entry. When children are not ready to learn by kindergarten, their chances at elementary, secondary and post-secondary success and completion are greatly diminished. Since studies predict that 65% of jobs in Hawaii in year 2018 will require at least some post-secondary education, Hawaii must prepare its children for success by investing in them early.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



Girl Scouts of Hawai'i  
410 Atkinson Drive  
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808-595-8400  
girlscouts-hawaii.org

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



Testimony of Cindy McMillan  
The Pacific Resource Partnership

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

SB 1095, SD2, HD1 – Relating to School Readiness  
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 1095, SD2, HD1, which establishes the early childhood education program within the early learning system.

Research has repeatedly confirmed that early education makes all the difference in school success. When children come to school ready to learn, teachers in the public school system can build on their experiences rather than having to backtrack to fill the cognitive and development gaps that should have been addressed earlier in the child's experience.

Early opportunities level the playing field and ensure that all our keiki have a chance to succeed in school, no matter their families' circumstances. If the adults can agree to invest in this program for our kids, we will reap the results later, when they are successful, productive members of their communities.

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

We respectfully ask for your committee to approve SB 1095, SD2, HD1.

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

## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:51 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jedill@pidfoundation.org  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

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:

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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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: Relating to Early Childhood Education – Senate Bill 1095 SD2 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 1095 SD 2 HD 1 that establishes a statewide early childhood education program consisting of providers of high-quality early childhood education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career.

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



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

March 31, 2013

P13:024T:LKR

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TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Finance

FROM: Laura Kay Rand, Interim Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: Committee on Finance  
April 2, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

Testimony in Support of SB1095, Relating to Early Childhood Education

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB1095, which establishes the Early Childhood Education program. PHOCUSED is a coalition of health, housing, human services agencies and individual advocates voicing the needs of the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii.

Education can provide a leveling of socio-economic impacts experienced by children from low-income families. These families are dealing with the challenges of Hawaii's high cost of living realities and are focused on providing the necessities, like food and housing. As a result children from low-income families are less likely to have the "extra" resources necessary to access high quality early childhood education programs. As studies have clearly shown, investing in a high-quality early childhood education will result in higher levels of educational attainment and stronger social and economic well-being. A strong start with early education provides a bridge to a different future for these children.

An Early Childhood Education program means that children in low-income families will have access to high-quality educational programming that would otherwise be out of reach. Without this access children from low-income families are less likely to have the strong start to their education that will result in providing a bridge to a successful college experience/career that will change their family's financial/social tree for generations to come.

I urge your support of SB1095. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,  
Laura Kay Rand  
Interim Executive Director

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 3:26 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kuhinanui@bellsouth.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina Eggert	Kuhina Nui Ka'ahumanu Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:10 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** modegaard@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael E. Malulani K. Odegard	Hawai i Bilingual / Hawai i Ōlelo Pālua	Support	No

Comments: We support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 7:03 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ulu.glass@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ululani Glass	Punana Leo Inc.	Support	No

Comments: I Support Punana Leo Amendments to Bill SB1095

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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Preschool Program***

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Pūnana Leo o Molokai  
Pūnana Leo o Honolulu  
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko  
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Loa  
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Pūnana Leo o Kauai

**Honuakai**  
***Hawaiian Voyaging Science***  
**Nluolahiki**  
***Hawaiian Language Online***

**Lā Ho'olohē Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room): Conference Room 308

**Kōmike** (Committee): House Finance

**Pila** (Bill): **SB1093, SD2 HD1 & SB1095 SD2 HD1**

**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO SCHOOL READINESS & EARLY CHILDHOOD  
EDUCATION

**Mana'o** (Position): KĀKO'O ME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH 'AHA PŪNANA LEO  
AMENDMENTS \_ FULL MEASURES ATTACHED)

**30 'Apelila 2013**

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

'O au 'o 'Ekekela Aiona, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo.  
My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

I hereby submit for the record SB1093 HD1 and SB1095 HD1, the full measure  
drafts that include the 'Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

Earlier submissions were abbreviated forms that included the rationale as to why  
these amendments are very important to Hawaiian medium early learning.

I stand by my testimony in support of these early learning initiatives with  
amendments that clarify the context for early learning in our state with two  
official languages. These amendments will allow the ONLY statewide Pūnana Leo  
preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system AND  
to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce  
and curriculum development THROUGH its laboratory status under the Hawaiian  
Language College which has supported our efforts of Hawaiian language  
revitalization over the last 30 years and for which the specialized training,  
professional development, curriculum and Hawaiian language support is  
unavailable from the mainstream English preschool system.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is a non profit Native Hawaiian Education organization. We  
are the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium  
of Hawaiian. Our preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool  
through doctorate) Hawaiian Medium Education system. Pūnana Leo keiki are  
prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian. Several provisions of  
the state constitution as well as federal legislation call for special attention to the  
unique needs of teaching through Hawaiian. The state has been involved in  
developing quality education through Hawaiian since 1997, when the legislature  
established the Hawaiian language college with a mandate to serve education  
through Hawaiian with a laboratory school program. HRS 304A-1301 establishes  
the Hawaiian language college and a laboratory school program as a function of  
the college. The Pūnana Leo schools function as laboratory schools of the  
college.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to submit testimony

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



A BILL FOR AN ACT SB1095 HD1 Complete Legislation w/APL Amendments
RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Submit to HOUSE FINANCE Committee Hearing 2 April 2013

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide early childhood education program in both official languages of the state, said program consisting of providers of high-quality early childhood education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career; provided that Senate Bill No. 1084, introduced in the regular session of 2013, which amends article X, section 1, of the Hawaii state constitution, to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, is enacted and ratified.

Significant research affirms the positive effects of high-quality early childhood education programs on the physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional outcomes of young children.

For example, early childhood education is one way to reduce high school dropout rates. A report released by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, released in 2011 and updated in 2012, found that students who do not read proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to drop out of school without a diploma, when compared to their counterparts who are proficient readers. The number increases when those students come from low-income families. After third grade, students use their reading skills to learn other subjects, and students who do not have such skills by that time are faced with enormous challenges.

When provided with opportunities for early childhood education, children are more likely to succeed in kindergarten and beyond and more likely to grow into healthy and capable adults who contribute positively to the larger community. Research emphasizes that high-quality programs are necessary to produce positive outcomes for children, both in the near- and long-term. Studies have shown that high-quality early childhood education programs are especially effective for at-risk children, including children from low-income families and otherwise disadvantaged children, with the great potential to alter their lifetime trajectories for success.

Well-executed and well-targeted early childhood education programs have immediate and long-term benefits not only for the children participating in the programs, but also for the societies in which they live, as determined by seminal studies such as those conducted by the HighScope and Chicago Parent-Child Centers programs. Societies that invest in such programs realize higher levels of educational attainment; reductions in homelessness, crime, and substance abuse; improved health; and better overall social and economic well-being. A 2008 study commissioned by the Good Beginnings Alliance found that every dollar invested today in high-quality early childhood education for Hawaii generates more than four dollars in future savings and increased earnings through state, federal, and social benefits.

SECTION 2. Chapter 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"§302L- Early childhood education program.** (a) There is established within the early learning system an early childhood education program to be administered by the office. The early childhood education program shall:

1. (1) Prepare children for school and to actively participate in society with distinctive pathways for schooling through either of the two official state languages  
; and

(2) Provide access to high-quality early childhood education, focused on equity, that addresses children's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development.

(b) The early childhood education program shall serve three- and four-year-old children, with priority extended to:

(1) Four-year-old children; and

(2) Underserved or at-risk children.

(c) Enrollment in the early childhood education program shall be voluntary. A parent or guardian shall share in the costs of the program through a copayment according to a sliding fee scale that is based on need and through fulfillment of family participation requirements, pursuant to rules adopted by the office. A

child who is enrolled in or eligible for public elementary education shall not be eligible for enrollment in the early childhood education program.

(d) The office may contract with eligible providers, which may include private providers, of early childhood education to increase the capacity of the early childhood education program to provide high-quality early childhood education to children across the State. Eligible providers shall meet, or develop plans to meet, the distinctive Hawaiian or English medium standards established under the early childhood education program pursuant to rules adopted by the office. The office may provide support to providers to meet these standards.

(e) The early childhood education program standards for English medium early education shall:

(1) Include research-based, developmentally appropriate practices that are associated with better educational outcomes for children, such as hiring teachers with a bachelor's degree with twelve credits in early childhood education or child development; curriculum aligned with the Hawaii early learning and development standards; and individual assessments of children, based upon all areas of childhood development and learning, including cognitive, linguistic, and social-emotional approaches to learning and health and physical development; and

(2) Align with the state content and performance standards for grades kindergarten to twelve to facilitate a seamless and high-quality educational experience for children.

(f) The office shall coordinate with other agencies and programs to facilitate comprehensive services for early childhood education.

(g) The office shall collect data to evaluate services provided, inform sound policy, and improve the provision of early childhood education through the early childhood education program.

(h) The office shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section."

(i) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section all laboratory schools of the state Hawaiian language college shall:

(1) qualify as part of the early childhood education program when serving children under the state minimum age for kindergarten enrollment; and

(2) have their providers deemed eligible providers of the early childhood education program.

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval and upon ratification of the constitutional amendment permitting the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs.



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

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 Hawai'i**

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.





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ATHERTON - KAILUA  
KUAPA - HAWAII KAI  
LAURA MORGAN - KAPALAMA HEIGHTS  
MOTHER RICE - MOILIILI  
MURIEL - KAKAOKO  
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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.



## FATH 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  
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Mililani Missionary Preschool  
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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

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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 asks the committee to pass SB1095.

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. We respectfully ask the committee to pass SB1095.

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](mailto:execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org)

## 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



31 March 2013

**To:** Representative Luke and members of the Hawai'i State Legislature

**RE:** Testimony in Support for Pūnana Leo Amendments to SB 1093 and 1095

This letter is to express and provide a rationale for our strong support for inclusion of the Pūnana Leo-sponsored amendments to SB 1083 concerning school readiness, and SB 1095 concerning early childhood education.

We are Drs. Bryan Brayboy and Teresa McCarty of Arizona State University and the University of California-Los Angeles, respectively. We have devoted our professional careers to research and collaborative partnerships with Indigenous communities on Indigenous education initiatives, and for the past four years we have worked together as codirectors and co-principal investigators within Arizona State University's Center for Indian Education. Together, we have more than 50 years of accumulated experience in the field of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian education. It is in this context that we have come to know the groundbreaking educational work being carried out by the Pūnana Leo nonprofit and its member schools and affiliated university programs. Teresa McCarty has written extensively on these initiatives in scholarly journals and books, most recently writing that the case of Hawaiian and the work by Pūnana Leo represents "one of the most lasting and effective Indigenous language revitalization movements in the world" (*Language Planning and Policy in Native America*, Multilingual Matters, p. 138). We have also used data from Hawaiian-language immersion programs in invited federal testimony used by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to advance national-level legislation in support of Native American education.

What is so important about the work of Pūnana Leo is the combination of high levels of Hawaiian language mastery *and* academic achievement in English and other subject areas produced through immersion in the Hawaiian language and culture. It is no overstatement to say that this approach has become a "best practices" model for the world. Key to these successful practices is the alignment of assessment in Hawaiian with the program's curriculum of teaching in and through the Hawaiian language. That is why it is essential that this program, with its fully Hawaiian-based preschool and early education assessment system, be provided a "safe harbor" within the proposed school readiness and early childhood legislation.

The Pūnana Leo schools and affiliated university programs have demonstrated the effectiveness of their methods. The State of Hawai'i is indeed fortunate to have an Indigenous-language college with a laboratory school system that has built pre-K–12 education through Hawaiian into the internationally recognized program it is today. This





legislation presents a unique and significant opportunity for the State of Hawai'i to support and even to showcase this exemplary approach to Native American education. We therefore respectfully urge the members of the Hawai'i State Legislature to move forward with all due speed to include the Pūnana Leo amendments and to continue to support this groundbreaking work in Native American language education.

Sincerely,

*Teresa L. McCarty, Ph.D.*

G.F. Kneller Chair in Education and Anthropology  
University of California-Los Angeles

*Bryan Brayboy, Ph.D.*

Borderlands Professor and Director, Center for Indian Education  
Arizona State University

29 March, 2013

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Dr. Leisy Wyman, and I am a tenured faculty member of the Language, Reading and Culture program at the University of Arizona. I am the author of a scholarly book on Indigenous youth language learning (*Youth Culture, Language Endangerment, and Linguistic Survivance*, Multilingual Matters, 2012) and co-editor of two recent scholarly volumes on Indigenous young peoples' bilingualism and multilingualism, (a 2009 theme issue on Indigenous youth and bilingualism for the *Journal of Language, Identity and Education*, and *Indigenous youth multilingualism*, a book that will be published by Routledge in August, 2013). Both of the aforementioned edited volumes synthesize current research on Indigenous young people's language learning and development; in both volumes my co-editors and I highlighted the work of Pila Wilson and Kauanoe Kamana of UH-Hilo because we consider Punana Leo and the related programs and efforts to be of exceptional quality, and models for the field of educational linguistics.

The accomplishments of Punana Leo schools, and those related to the UH-Hilo Hawaiian language programs are truly inspirational for scholars, students and community members developing bilingual and multilingual programs in endangered Indigenous languages. As professors in a university with a very active program in Indigenous education, my colleagues and I regularly discuss research articles on Punana Leo and the Hawaiian language efforts of UH-Hilo with teachers and upcoming scholars in our general education classes and also with Indigenous teachers and scholars from around the US who attend our American Indian Language Development Institute in the summer. For a number of years, I have also had the great pleasure of working with educational leaders and students at UH-Hilo in a series of inter-institutional videoconference courses focused on Indigenous education. In these courses, I am consistently impressed with the careful, groundbreaking nature of the work at UH-Hilo, and how they are moving our field forward with their work on Indigenous language programs, curriculum development, assessment development, and the professional development of upcoming Indigenous educators.



In many places Native American groups are exercising their right under the Native American Languages Act to improve existing educational opportunities for youth by offering education in Native American languages. Among these groups, the Hawaiian language effort has helped lead the way in showing how Indigenous language educators can make sound educational choices and offer excellent instruction to youth through teacher training, instruction and assessment processes and practices that are tailored for specific Indigenous languages and cultures. Currently, there are many Native American and Alaska Native groups who wish to use early childhood education programs to improve the healthy language development of young children in endangered languages. The amendments before you will set an important precedent in that they will formally recognize the necessity of distinct pathways for teacher training, standards, and assessments for early childhood education provided through endangered Native American languages.

Participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is also crucial so that educators can gain key knowledge in best practices relative to Native American language early education, while developing the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments. The Hawaiian language program faculty at UH-Hilo are known among scholars for making educationally sound, innovative choices that support strong language development and academic achievement of Native Hawaiian youth. We have no doubt that in this effort, too, they will be successful in strengthening their already impressive program, and that they will continue to lead the way for others working towards similar goals in diverse Native American and Alaska Native contexts.

Hawaii is extremely fortunate to have a nationally and internationally recognized Indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian.

Please include the Punana Leo amendments so that they may continue to break ground in Native American language medium education, and so that other Indigenous peoples in the US and elsewhere can move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,

Leisy Wyman, PhD  
Language, Reading and Culture Program  
Department of Teaching, Learning, Sociocultural Studies  
College of Education  
University of Arizona





1 April 2013

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I, Joseph DeChicchis, a US citizen, Pennsylvania resident, and friend of Hawaii, know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo as a result of my research on language diversity and multilingualism, especially from my study of citizens' efforts to maintain their threatened and endangered languages.

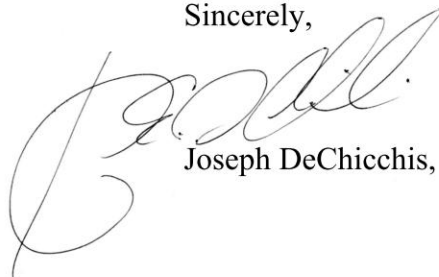
The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Having studied minority language communities around the globe, I assure you that Hawaiians can be rightly proud of Punana Leo and the exemplary model it sets for humanity. Please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help all communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,



Joseph DeChicchis, Ph.D., F.R.S.A.



# DIBISION INESTUDION CHAMORU YAN ESPESIÁT NA PRUGRÂM SIHA

Chamorro Studies & Special Projects Division

## DIPATTAMENTON IDUKASION

Department of Education

P.O. Box DE Hagåtña, GU 96932

Tel: (671) 300-5048 ~ (617) 472-6785 ext. 5048



JON J.P. FERNANDEZ  
Superintendent of Education



RONALD T. LAGUAÑA  
Administrator

April 1, 2013

Representative Sylvia Luke  
House District 25  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Håfa Adai Representative Luke and Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Ronald T. Laguana from the Guam Department of Education Chamoru Studies Division and know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo through a site visit in February of this year.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.


Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Our program is an indigenous language maintenance program. We serve approximately 20,000 Guam students. Through my visitation I have seen firsthand the high quality instruction happening at Aha Punana Leo and the Hawaiian language college at UH Hilo.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Senseramente,

  
Ronald T. Laguana



1<sup>st</sup> April, 2013

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am writing in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education

As Education Director for the Pueblo of Jemez in New Mexico, I have had the honor of providing congressional testimony with representatives of the Punana Leo for the US Congress on successful models of Language and Culture Based Education. Through the National Indian Education Association Native Workgroup, we have also been able to visit the Punana Leo schools and the Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo to learn directly from the Hawaiian educators and to see the successful educational models created through public-private partnerships.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages. Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies. It is one for us in Indigenous education to learn from and replicate for our communities.

Our Tribal Department of Education is working with our local community Schools (Public, Charter, Bureau and Tribal) along with our Higher Education Institutions to develop a seamless education system from early childhood to College that honors the local languages, cultures and traditions. Thus we look to you as the model.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Respectfully,

  
Kevin R. Shendo  
Education Director

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**Department of Education**

5117 Highway 4, Box 60 • Jemez Pueblo • New Mexico • 87024  
575.834.9102 • Fax 575.834.7900



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P.O. Box 948 • Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948 • 918-453-5000 • [cherokee.org](http://cherokee.org)

**Office of the Chief**

Bill John Baker  
*Principal Chief*  
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S. Joe Crittenden  
*Deputy Principal Chief*  
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April 1, 2013

Dear Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Gloria Sly, and know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo through consultations with staffs of each institution throughout the 10 years while developing Cherokee Nation's language immersion program and Northeastern State University's Cherokee Language Studies. Each of the two programs mirrors the Hawaiian language models and the Hawaiian staffs are still contacted if a program issue arises.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Our school is Tsunadeloquasdi which is chartered through Cherokee Nation. This is the only Indigenous language immersion public school in Oklahoma.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programing.

Sincerely,

Gloria Sly



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:32 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** uilaniho@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
U ilani Ho	Parent at Pūnana Leo o Mānoa	Support	Yes

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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

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**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](mailto:yvonnurbas@aol.com)

First Name: Yvonne

Last Name: Urbas-Leboeuf

City: Lanai City  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96763



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 6:01 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** vivian@openwaterswimmer.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vivian Cordial	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:wendy.tupper@gmail.com)

First Name: Wendy

Last Name: Tupper

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 3:28 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hulanoe@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lilinoe Kapi'olani Saballos	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:02 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** lgentry5@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Gentry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha my name is Linda Gentry and I strongly support the amendments that Aha Punana leo has made to this bill. Hawaiian is an official state language and I feel it is important our keiki that learn and are taught in Hawaiian be given that same opportunities as children of the English system. Mahalo.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:08 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nhokoana@cfs-hawaii.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Hokoana	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill to provide funding for keiki to attend culture based preschools. It is very important that our children not only receive education that will give them a head start in life, but also that it is culturally relevant and grounds them in values consistent with their ohana. Mahalo.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:44 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Poliahu2007@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Momi Tong	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:vincent_kimura@yahoo.com)

First Name: VINCENT

Last Name: KIMURA

City: HONOLULU

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:32 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** honu\_14@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendie Shirai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am dr. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, professor emerita, Åbo Akademi University, Dept of Education, Finland, and Roskilde University, Dept of Languages and culture, Denmark. See my home page, [www.Tove-Skutnabb-Kangas.org](http://www.Tove-Skutnabb-Kangas.org), and my signature in my email for some recent books. I have known the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo more or less from when they started, through many colleagues and friends. I have been really inspired by their work, and have presented it in many lectures and seminars around the world. I am in constant contact with them. Kauanoe Kamanā and William H. Wilson have, among other things, written a back cover blurb for the book (2013) that I wrote together with Marja-Liisa Olthuis and Suvi Kivelä, *Revitalise Indigenous Languages. How to recreate a lost working-age generation* (Bristol: Multilingual Matters); the book describes a spectacular revitalisation of the Indigenous Aanaar Saami language (some 350 speakers) in Finland.

Having written and edited several books on Linguistic Human Rights, especially in education, I can certainly say that the amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed. It is an acknowledged fact among all the Saami (ten Saami languages) and many other Indigenous peoples that "only" changing the language of education (itself a basic requirements for revitalising, developing and maintaining Indigenous and minority languages) is not enough – the education has to reflect and develop the Indigenous culture, including its specific ways of teaching and learning. This is what the amendments will enable.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an Indigenous language college with

a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally (and, importantly, internationally) recognized position that it currently occupies.

Again, I urge you to include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to inspire Indigenous communities all over the world to move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,

Dr Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, email:SkutnabbKangas followed by [@gmail.com](mailto:SkutnabbKangas@gmail.com); home page: [www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org](http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org).

**RECENT BOOKS:** 1. Olthuis, Marja-Liisa, Kivelä, Suvi & Skutnabb-Kangas, Tove (2013). *Revitalising Indigenous languages. How to recreate a lost generation.* [www.casle.fi](http://www.casle.fi), <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?isb=9781847698872>. 2. Sheyholislami, Jaffer, Hassanpour, Amir & TSK (eds) (2012). *The Kurdish Linguistic Landscape: Vitality, Linguicide and Resistance.* Special issue nr 217, *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*. 3. TSK and Heugh, Kathleen (eds) (2012). *Multilingual Education and Sustainable Diversity Work: From Periphery to Center.* New York: Routledge. 4. Heugh, Kathleen and TSK (eds) (2010). *Multilingual Education Works: from the Periphery to the Centre.* [http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most\\_recent\\_books.html](http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most_recent_books.html). 5. TSK and Robert Dunbar (2010). *Indigenous Children's Education as Linguistic Genocide and a Crime Against Humanity? A Global View* (Gáldu, Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, [www.galdu.org](http://www.galdu.org)). Read it at <http://www.e-pages.dk/grusweb/55/>. 6. Mohanty et al. (eds) (2009). *Multilingual Education for Social Justice: Globalising the Local*; short URL <http://uri.fi/EO/>; 7. TSK et al. (eds). (2009) *Social Justice through Multilingual Education*; <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?K=9781847691897> (for Turkish translation, 2013, see book nr 6 at [http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most\\_recent\\_books.html](http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most_recent_books.html)).



## 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

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [wwatkins@hawaii.edu](mailto:wwatkins@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Wayne

Last Name: Watkins

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 6:57 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kon.valerie@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Valerie Kon	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:tabraham08@gmail.com)

First Name: Troy

Last Name: Abraham

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:ruggiero_2@hotmail.com)

First Name: Tracy

Last Name: Ruggiero

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:25 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** tkealoha@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tracy Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. mahalo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:56 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hblfstyless@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tracie Baptiste	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Pūnana Leo's amendments.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:08 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** leilani2777@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tiffany Nerveza	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095. Kāko o piha au i nā loli i ia pila SB1095.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 9:39 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** eliskitchen1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Thomas Eli	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha kākou, As a continuing ohana at Pūnana Leo o Wai anae, we SUPPORT THE PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS SOUGHT TO INCLUDE HAWAIIAN MEDIUM EDUCATION IN SB1095. As an official language of the state of Hawai i, Hawaiian language education should be supported and encouraged by this state and its leadership. We trust that your judgment will concur. Mahalo nui for your consideration. Kaulana Eli Pūnana Leo o Wai anae Nānākuli, HI

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

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**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](mailto:konoama8403@gmail.com)

First Name: Tessie

Last Name: Kotrys

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:40 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** terry@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Terry Kimokeo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: "I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments."

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** Terri Yoshinaga [mztee22@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:18 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](mailto:mztee22@hotmail.com)

First Name: Terri

Last Name: Yoshinaga

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822



## FINTestimony

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**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:

Email 1 (Primary): [skillman@hawaii.edu](mailto:skillman@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Teri

Last Name: Skillman

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96819





# 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.



## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [temidayo@hawaii.edu](mailto:temidayo@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Temidayo

Last Name: Alamurin

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96848





## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [tandyawaya@gmail.com](mailto:tandyawaya@gmail.com)

First Name: Tandy

Last Name: Tabata

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817



## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [tamara.d.jackson@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:tamara.d.jackson@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Tamara

Last Name: Jackson

City: Ewa Beach  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96706





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 1:39 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Drtnoe@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
T. Noelani Perreira	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill ONLY WITH THE AHA PUNANA LEO AMMENDMENTS. Regards,  
Noelani Perreira

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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[webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [susaneshim@yahoo.com](mailto:susaneshim@yahoo.com)

First Name: Susie

Last Name: Shim

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96821



## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [waipahu@kamaainakids.com](mailto:waipahu@kamaainakids.com)

First Name: Susan Lynn

Last Name: Rosaldo

City: Waipahu

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ZIP Code: 96797





## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

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

First Name: stephanie

Last Name: kakalia

City: waianae

State: HI

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:hallmorin@gmail.com)

First Name: Stephanie

Last Name: Hall-Morin

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:pinkbutterfly670@gmail.com)

First Name: Stacey

Last Name: Yoshida

City: Pearl City

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96782



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Stacelynn84@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stacelynn Eli	Individual	Support	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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 7:24 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** aspencer@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Spencer Leineweber	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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

ʻO au ʻo ʻKawailehua Castillo, na kahu maka Pūnana Leo o Honolulu. My name is Kawailehua Castillo, and I am the director at Pūnana Leo o Honolulu. I have 3 children, 2 of which have graduated from the ʻAha Punana Leo program. I am here today in support and ask that you pass this bill with the amendments that ʻAha Punana Leo has made. Hawaiian is an official state language and I feel that our keiki should get the same benefits that keiki of the English speaking schools are getting. Mahalo nui for taking the time to read my testimony.

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:06 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** shincho64@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
SHIN Matsuo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support amending SB 1093/SB 1095 as proposed by the Aha Punana Leo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:46 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kalei1973@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sheila kaopua	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support the ammendments that 'Aha Punana Leo has made to this bill.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 8:37 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** shawnjamesleavey@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shawn James Leavey	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support with the PUNANA LEO amendments. mahalo!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:sharon@medicalhomeworks.net)

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Taba

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:01 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mai\_poina@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sharleen Gilliland	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Punana Leo s amendments

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 11:30 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** skmfreitas@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sharde Mersberg Freitas	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:mizsassy@hawaiiantel.net)

First Name: Shantell

Last Name: Rios

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:08 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** shdenmar@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shannon Pua a	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha my name is Shannon Puaa. I Strongly support the Amendments that Aha Punana Leo has made to this Bill. Mahalo for you time.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 7:35 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** sdarcher99@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Seth Archer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:vaseptember@gmail.com)

First Name: September

Last Name: Jones

City: Arlington  
State: VA  
ZIP Code: 22205



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:scottsato@gmail.com)

First Name: Scott

Last Name: Sato

City: Kapaa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96746





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:saran@hcapweb.org)

First Name: Sara

Last Name: Neves

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 9:46 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Sanoemarfil@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sanoe Marfil	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Kako'o nui wau SB 1095

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:05 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Sryanmaui@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sandy Ryan	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:sandra.w.garcia@navy.mil)

First Name: sandra

Last Name: walz garcia

City: kalaheo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96741





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 10:24 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** belr@me.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Bell	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:ragpaoa@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Roy

Last Name: Agpaoa

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:romaj@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: roma

Last Name: johnson

City: kailua-kona

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96740





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:01 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rrieta@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robynne Rieta	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Punana leo ammendments

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:bwo@cswow.com)

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Wo

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96817



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:reneeespiau@hotmail.com)

First Name: Renee

Last Name: Espiau

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:rdkurisu@gmail.com)

First Name: Reina

Last Name: Kurisu

City: Kapaa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96746



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:daphnenixon@comcast.net)

First Name: Ravandolyn

Last Name: Galvin

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96814





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 11:11 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rama@myutil.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rama McIntosh	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:40 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** rachelah@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel Hazeltine	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:pflores@atlasinsurance.com)

First Name: Pixie

Last Name: Flores

City: Kailua-Kona

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96745



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 9:25 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** pikihayward@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Piki Hayward	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PUNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:48 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** pelekaio@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pele Kaio	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the Aha Pūnana Leo suggested amendments to the Early Education Bill SB 1095

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 8:15 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ppullar808@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paulette Pullar	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:paulotiguchi@yahoo.com)

First Name: Paula

Last Name: Moriguchi

City: Waimea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96796



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:pclegg7@yahoo.com)

First Name: Pamela

Last Name: Clegg

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:15 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Oralani@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Oralani Koa	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments!

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

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**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](mailto:nohea.lenwai@gmail.com)

First Name: Nohealani

Last Name: LenWai

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817



## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:34 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** leilei@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Noelle Ishikawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Punana Leo s amendments.

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

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**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](mailto:nicole5012@gmail.com)

First Name: Nicole

Last Name: Gauvin

City: Alexandria

State: VA

ZIP Code: 22304



## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 5:53 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaya\_42056@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicole Chun-Park		Comments Only	No

Comments: I support Pūnana Leo Amendments to bill SB1095

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:14 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kalanisq@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Neil S. Quitevis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: "I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments."

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

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:10 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nkanales@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Nathan Kanale Sadowski	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support the Punana Leo Amendments. Please do the same. Punana Leo is the best preschool in the state. My children attended Punana Leo and transitioned to DOE English with no problems. Punana Leo taught them to be leaders, to follow directions, to be respectful, to be curious, to be self-starters, to understand Hawaiian culture and of course, to understand and converse in `Olelo Hawai`i, the native language of these islands. By including the Punana Leo amendments you strengthen the pre-school standards statewide and support Hawai`i's native people and show that you truly understand what makes Hawai`i unique and special.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 9:19 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Natalie.fujimura@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Natalie Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:28 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** napuasilva@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Napua Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:13 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** sissylake@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Naomi Lake-Farm	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support with Aha Pūnana Leo's amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:puananip@hotmail.com)

First Name: Nancy Rose

Last Name: Perry-Kepoo

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:12 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nancyhedlund@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nancy Hedlund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this bill with the Punana Leo Amendments. This is so important. Thank you.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:42 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** moniquekomoda@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Monique Komoda	Individual	Support	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

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**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](mailto:monicamond@yahoo.com)

First Name: monica

Last Name: dacosin

City: kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:aujkdir@gmail.com)

First Name: Mitchell

Last Name: Kido

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 11:00 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** misuzu@sicurtech.ch  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Misuzu Hanyu	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo amendments

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

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**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](mailto:mimi277@aol.com)

First Name: Mindy

Last Name: Bailey

City: Wahiawa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96786



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:chingm006@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Milton

Last Name: Ching

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:36 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** leilei@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Stills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Punana Leo s amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:ihilanisf@aol.com)

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Fahey

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:48 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** micahyoung56@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Micah Young	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** diamondi\_ranch@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Stewart Rodrigues	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with `Aha Punana Leo Amendments.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:51 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mmoretti@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Moretti	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 2:16 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** MELISSAB\_95@HOTMAIL.COM  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
MELISSA LOS BANOS	Individual	Support	No

Comments: "I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments."

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:mkasikrequilman@gmail.com)

First Name: Melissa

Last Name: Kasik

City: Ewa beach  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96706





## 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](mailto:dakawaii1@gmail.com)

First Name: Melissa

Last Name: Giuffre

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:17 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** werviewo@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melanie Werwie	'Aha Punana Leo	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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

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**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](mailto:melanieandjamie@live.com)

First Name: Melanie

Last Name: Padgett

City: Pukalani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96768





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:11 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mldudley@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melanie Leilā Dudley	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:meghan@lunajewels.com)

First Name: Meghan

Last Name: Debouk Connors

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96814



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:mshoemaker@wsgc.com)

First Name: mary

Last Name: shoemaker

City: river forest  
State: IL  
ZIP Code: 60305





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:mauigirl1978@yahoo.com)

First Name: Marsha

Last Name: Jones

City: wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:shukar60@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Marlene Perez

Last Name: Perez

City: waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 6:34 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** markkamakea@earthlink.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Kamakea	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo ammendments. It is important that Hawaii children be prepared to be successful in Hawaiian language schools as well as English language schools.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:hannahtr@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Marie

Last Name: trenhaile

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:47 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mercadomarie@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marie Mercado	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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

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**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](mailto:mariamonsell@gmail.com)

First Name: Maria

Last Name: Uyeunten

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:24 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mariamier@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
maria mier	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:pegmikulanec@yahoo.com)

First Name: Margaret

Last Name: Mikulanec

City: Indianola  
State: IA  
ZIP Code: 50125



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 1:49 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Mana@ibehawaiian.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mana Kaleilani Caceres	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Being that 'olelo Hawai'i is an official language of the State of Hawaii, I support this bill WITH the Aha Punana Leo amendments. Families that choose to send their keiki to a Hawaiian medium education preschool should be given the same consideration as English medium education preschools.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:msakaki@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Malia

Last Name: Sakaki

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





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:43 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** malia@mkingacupuncture.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Malia King	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 4:31 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ssjmakena@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Makena Fernandez	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:26 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mching1230@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Makana Ching	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: I support Punana Leo's Amendments to bill SB1095.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:09 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** r.naauao@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maka ala Na auao	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:49 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaleimaile@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mailelani Robia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill WITH AHA PUNANA LEO AMENDMENTS. Mahalo!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:lbwilson@webfishpacific.com)

First Name: Lynn

Last Name: Wilson

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:cabatol002@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Lynn

Last Name: Cabato

City: Mililani  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96789



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:56 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** luellacrutcher@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Luella Nohea Crutcher	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:lorrainebennett@yahoo.com)

First Name: Lorraine

Last Name: Bennett

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:48 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaleimaile@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lopaka K. Robia	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Pūnana Leo amendments. Mahalo!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:rapp_l@yahoo.com)

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Rapp



City: Kaneohe  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96744

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:lisak@hmhb-hawaii.org)

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Kimura

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:39 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ljab3@aol.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Jaber	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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

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**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](mailto:lschoenecke@gmail.com)

First Name: Lindsay

Last Name: Schoenecke

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96818





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:linlee3@mac.com)

First Name: Linda

Last Name: Lee

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:52 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** lindajury4@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Linda Jury	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill WITH PUNANALEO AMMENDMENTS!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:lindacoble@mac.com)



First Name: Linda

Last Name: Coble

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:levani.rachel@gmail.com)

First Name: Levani

Last Name: Lipton.

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:LESLIE@KAMAAINAKIDS.COM)

First Name: Leslie

Last Name: Colby

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96815



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:37 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** oopu\_5@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimomi Wheeler	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:14 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** leialii@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leialii Mano'i-Cuban	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support this bill ONLY with the Pūnana Leo Ammendments!

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 10:19 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** L38j40@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Lei pascua	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Punana Leo is a great assit to the community. To our keiki.i for one wished that the culture, language was taught to me. I am50yrs old and now Earning about my kupuna. Keep them and support them they will benefit the Hawaiians which we need.

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

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**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](mailto:lbennett27@gmail.com)

First Name: Lawrence

Last Name: Bennett

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96839



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 6:41 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** leslieohana@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lavalliere Kehaulani Clumb	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Since I live in Indianapolis, I'm unable to be in attendance of this hearing. However, please know that I do request that the 'Aha Punana Leo Amendment be approved. Remember, this is the age that children have minds like a sponge...in today's world, it is so important for youngsters to receive that education needed to live a productive life. Mahalo nui loa...

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:momo.modus@gmail.com)

First Name: Laura

Last Name: Mo

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96818



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 8:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** larrykim@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Larry Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, Please support Aha Pūnana Leo amendments to the bill. Mahalo nui.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:30 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nalu@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
L. Ka iunalu Barrett	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kāko o piha au me nā loli!!! (Fully support with amendments)!!!

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:04 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kylefarm@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kyle Farm	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kyadao@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Krystina

Last Name: Yadao

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:17 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kwong2@mac.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristy Stone	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Punana Leo s amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [fiatoaz@yahoo.com](mailto:fiatoaz@yahoo.com)

First Name: Kristine

Last Name: Fiatoa

City: Pearl City  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96782





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 5:52 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kristinlaura@mac.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kristin Anderton	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments. I have watched this program evolve over the years on both O`ahu and Hawai`i islands and know the true value of it for our Hawaiian families. It would be devastating for this program to not receive all support from us!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:skyybluebabe808@aol.com)

First Name: Kimberly

Last Name: Hokama

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:01 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kimberlyhaupu@ymail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kimberly haupu	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PUNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095, BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO ESTABLISH STATEWIDE EARLYCHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE KEIKI OH HAWAII. FOR EARLYLEARNING IN PREPARING CHILDREN/KEIKIS FOR SCHOOL,PROVIDING ACCESS TO HIGHESS QUALITY OF EDUCATION AFFORDED,ALIGN WITH K-12 STANDARDS TO AN ENDLESS EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF HAWAII'S KEIKI. IT IS OUR DUTY TO PROVIDE THESE SERVICE AND CONTINUANCE TO FOLLOW. AGAIN I SUPPORT SB1095

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 12:54 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Lifttoheaven7@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimberly Auwae	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:aciertok@gmail.com)

First Name: Kimberly

Last Name: Acierto

City: Kapaa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96746



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:49 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** knewhous@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimberley Newhouse	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support the passage of this bill with Aha Punana Leo's amendments. These amendments will ensure Hawai'i's context for early learning in Hawai'i's two official languages and support my child in his Hawaiian medium education. Mahalo

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:klimasa@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Kimberley

Last Name: Limasa

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707





## 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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:43 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** r.kiana@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kiana Rivera	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support our Punanaleo programs and other Hawaiian language schools!

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 5:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kdayson@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kevin Dayson	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [kurosevich@familyhui.org](mailto:kurosevich@familyhui.org)

First Name: Kerrie

Last Name: Urosevich

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:keriann@osadas.com)

First Name: Keriann

Last Name: Osada

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816



## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:25 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** keoni.lee@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Keoni Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha kākou, I support this bill ONLY with the amendments proposed by the Aha Pūnana Leo to ensure inclusion of the distinctly different Hawaiian medium education system here in Hawai i. As a parent of a Hawaiian medium education pre-schooler, I am very aware of the differences in the program and the need to ensure that this important educational system be specifically included, and not unintentionally excluded, from the current early education initiatives. The State of Hawaii through Article X, Sec 4, of its Constitution and through various laws and initiatives of the State Legislature, have made a clear commitment to the equal status of the Hawaiian language with English as our two official languages. These early education bills are another opportunity to continue this commitment to support the mother language of these islands. Mahalo nui.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 12:47 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Kuulei\_1@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelly Auwae-McAllister	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 9:51 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** makanalewis@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kekuamakana Lewis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this Bill with Aha Punana Leo amendments

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

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**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](mailto:kbeaupre@nkcpa.com)

First Name: Kekoa

Last Name: Beaupre

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:15 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kehau\_w@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kēhaulani Wehrsig	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Pūnana Leo amendments

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:18 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** keani\_nwr@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keani Rawlins-Fernandez	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:58 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** keanaaimiriam@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Keana`ai Crabbe	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha mai kakou, I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS. I am currently working at Punana Leo o Honolulu & am a proud parent of a graduate of Punana Leo o Maui. I also currently have a daughter attending Punana Leo o Honolulu. My keiki are thriving in this Hawaiian medium program & am very appreciative of the cultural aspects the program instills. I strongly feel that without language, there is no culture, & without culture, what more is there? Please allow Hawaiian medium schools to reap the same benefits as their English speaking counterparts. Mahalo, Keana`ai Crabbe

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:55 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kealani\_04@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kealani Sawyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I Support this bill with Aha Punana Leo s amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kayla_marcos@yahoo.com)

First Name: Kayla

Last Name: Marcos

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816



## FINTestimony

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**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:

Email 1 (Primary): [bumboocha@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:bumboocha@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Kay

Last Name: Lipps

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 8:16 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kpuahi@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kavika Puahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kauip@inpeace.org)

First Name: Kauai

Last Name: Pratt

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kandktom@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Kathy

Last Name: Tom

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kfong@pidfoundation.org)

First Name: Kathleen

Last Name: Fong

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 12:19 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** manifestaloha@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
KATHERINE ROSEGUO	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support SB 1095 with AHA PUNANA LEO Amendments!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:gavey@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Gavey

City: Haleiwa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96712



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:crossl001@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Cross

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 5:28 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** karanspencer@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karan Spencer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the inclusion of Punana Leo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:37 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** karaueki@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kara Ueki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Kāko o au i ka ōlelo Hawai i!

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:39 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaleonanik@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Kaleonani Kalauoka'ae'a-Kahele	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:30 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ripmkealoha@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaleo Kealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:38 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** silvag@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalena Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the Aha Punana Leo suggested amendments to the Early Education Bill SB 1095

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** Kaleimomi Cezar [roxykalei@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:47 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** In Support of SBs 1093 SD2 HD1, and 1095 SD2 HD1

Kaleimomi Cezar from Honolulu, HI writes:

Eia ka ikepili

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

O au o Kaleimomi Cezar, ka makua o Hau oli Cezar-Kanakaole, he haumana ma ke kula o Pūnana Leo o Honolulu. My name is Kaleimomi Cezar and I am the parent of Hau`oli Cezar-Kanaka ole, a student at Pūnana Leo o Honolulu. Mahalo for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1093 SD2 HD1 and 1095 SD2 HD1. Both of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's 4 years 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. Both of these bills would begin to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate finance burdens associated with early childhood education costs.

The Aha Pūnana Leo is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, and I, like many other ohana (family) are keeping the language of our ancestors alive. Not only do I understand how important it is for young children to be able to attend preschool, but I also understand the importance of cultural identity, and being able to perpetuate our culture. My keiki (child) is thriving in his Hawaiian medium education environment and learning the language, values and customs of our Native Hawaiian culture. I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity for my keiki to attend a Hawaiian immersion preschool, where he is flourishing.

Although, I am a strong supporter of these bills and am testifying in full support, I also fully support the amendments introduced by the Aha Pūnana Leo to clarify the context for early learning in our State with two official languages, which would allow the Aha Pūnana Leo preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system while working to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce & curriculum development through the Aha Pūnana Leo's laboratory status under the Hawaiian Language College which has supported the efforts of Hawaiian language revitalization over the last 30 years and for which provides specialized training, professional development, curriculum, and Hawaiian language support which is not available in a mainstream English preschool system.

The Aha Pūnana Leo is a non-profit Native Hawaiian Education organization providing early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. Their preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool through doctorate) Hawaiian Medium Education system, and the keiki of Pūnana Leo are prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian.

Please support the amendments provided by the Aha Pūnana Leo to include Hawaiian Medium Preschools as part of the School Readiness Program and Statewide Early Learning System.

Mahalo nui for giving me the opportunity to testify.

Kaleimomi Cezar

Makua of a 4 year old preschool student enrolled at the Punana Leo o Honolulu

-----

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [roxykalei@gmail.com](mailto:roxykalei@gmail.com)

First Name: Kaleimomi

Last Name: Cezar

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 12:27 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaipuaala.c@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaipua ala Crabbe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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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**Lā Ho'olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room) Conference Room 308  
**Kōmike** (Committee) House Finance

**Pila** (Bill) SB1095, SD2 HD1  
**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Mana'o** (Position): KĀKO'O ME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS Attached)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee

'O au 'o 'Ekekela Aiona, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo.  
My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo continues to support these early learning initiatives with amendments that clarify the context for early learning in our state with two official languages. These amendments will allow the ONLY statewide Pūnana Leo preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system AND to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce and curriculum development THROUGH its laboratory status under the Hawaiian Language College which has supported our efforts of Hawaiian language revitalization over the last 30 years and for which the specialized training, professional development, curriculum and Hawaiian language support is unavailable from the mainstream English preschool system.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is a non profit Native Hawaiian Education organization. We are the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. Our preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool through doctorate) Hawaiian Medium Education system. Pūnana Leo keiki are prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian. Several provisions of the state constitution as well as federal legislation call for special attention to the unique needs of teaching through Hawaiian. The state has been involved in developing quality education through Hawaiian since 1997, when the legislature established the Hawaiian language college with a mandate to serve education through Hawaiian with a laboratory school program. HRS 304A-1301 establishes the Hawaiian language college and a laboratory school program as a function of the college. The Pūnana Leo schools function as laboratory schools of the college.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo nui

<b>‘Aha Pūnana Leo Amendments For Early Childhood Education</b>	
<b>SB 1095 SD2 HD1</b>	
Amendments	Rationale
Sec. 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide early education program <b>in both official languages of the state with distinctive attention to the endangered Hawaiian language</b> , said program consisting of providers of ....	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai‘i Constitution Official Languages Article XV Section 4.</li> </ul>
Sec. 2.  302L Early chldhood education program (a)....  (1) Prepare children for school and to actively participate in society <b>with distinctive pathways for schooling through either of the two official state languages</b> ; and (2) Provide access to high-quality early childhood education, focused on equity, that addresses children’s physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development <b>as well as Chapter X Section 4 of the State Constitution</b> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•‘Aha Pūnana Leo established in 1983 E Ola Ka ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i_the Hawaiian language shall live.</li> <li>•Hawaiian language is medium of instruction.</li> <li>• ‘Aha Pūnana Leo is the only Hawaiian medium education (HME) statewide provider serving 250 keiki, 11 months, full day at 11 centers on Hawai‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu and Kaua‘i.</li> <li>•Hawai‘i is a national and international leader, and has the most successful model of endangered, indigenous language revitalization.</li> <li>•These amendments are relevant to the State of Hawai‘i’s Context for Early Learning</li> </ul>
(b)... (1)... (2)... (c)... (d)... Eligible providers shall meet, or develop plans to meet, the <b>distinctive Hawaiian and English medium</b> standards established under the early.... (e) The early childhood education program standards <b>for English medium early education</b> shall:	<p>Language Matters. The National Academy of Sciences research on the Role of Language reveals that characteristics of a speaker’s language influence the quantitative skills of the child. Languages also differ in important ways in the clarity and consistency reflected in actual number names. The study found that speakers of languages whose number names are patterned after Chinese (like Hawaiian) are better able than speakers of English to represent numbers using base ten blocks and to perform other place value tasks.</p> <p>In addition to the advantage in the way Hawaiian represents mathematical concepts, the role of language also influences the rate of early reading acquisition. Hawaiian language has its advantages in its syllabic system of early reading. These are advantages of learning through Hawaiian language and for which distinct standards be adopted in the Early Education program.</p> <p><i>Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood:</i></p>



	<i>Paths Towards Excellence and Equity; National Academy of Sciences.</i>
<p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(f)...</p> <p>(g)...</p> <p>(h)...</p> <p><u>(i) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section all laboratory schools of the state Hawaiian language college shall:</u></p> <p><u>(1) qualify as part of the early childhood education program when serving children under the state minimum age for kindergarten enrollment; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) have their providers deemed eligible providers of the early childhood education program.</u></p>	<p>The ‘Aha Pūnana Leo preschools are laboratory schools of the state’s Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. As such, ‘APL has been working with the college in teacher recruitment, curriculum development, teacher training and professional development. The ECE framework for the state’s early education initiative is geared towards English language preschools. Policies that require participation based in the English language potentially disenfranchises Hawaiian speaking children and families and is harmful to the goal of Pūnana Leo which is the protection, promotion and revitalization of Hawaiian. This amendment will provide a safe harbor for HME to participate as provider while working towards building capacity of a workforce and moving closer towards a more complete equitable early learning system in a state with two official languages.</p>

## 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](mailto:kaina.bonacorsi@mauicounty.gov)

First Name: Ka'ina

Last Name: Bonacorsi

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96768

## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:55 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaila61@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaila DeFries	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:15 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kanoekalilimoku@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Justiana Kalilimoku	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PUNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Lawrence Kaplan, Director of the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and have known the Punana Leo and Hawaiian Language College at UH-Hilo for many years, first through their worldwide reputation in language revitalization of Hawaiian and then through my personal contacts and observations of their programs during visits to Hawaii.

I have worked with Native languages of Alaska for nearly forty years and consider that the amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Our program has been involved with studying and promoting Alaska's Native languages since the early 1970's and has benefited from contact with UH-Hilo's Hawaiian Language College and the school programs it supports. Alaskans often visit Hilo to learn about these efforts and we clearly recognize the need to develop a pathway to allow Native American languages to move forward in the area of early language education.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue these groundbreaking efforts in Native American language medium education that can be used to help other communities including ours to move forward

with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,

Lawrence D. Kaplan, PhD  
Director, Alaska Native Language Center  
[ldkaplan@alaska.edu](mailto:ldkaplan@alaska.edu)

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:30 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hanaikienterprises@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Coelho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Pūnana Leo's amendments.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:37 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jkkahanu@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jonah Kahanu	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:15 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaurose@live.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joleen Alderdyce	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the Aha Pūnana Leo suggested amendments to the Early Education Bill SB1095

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 11:35 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** gionsonj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joel Gionson	Individual	Support	Yes

### Comments:

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:fopawz@mac.com)

First Name: JoAnn

Last Name: Yuen

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789



## FINTestimony

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**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.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [jin3435@hotmail.com](mailto:jin3435@hotmail.com)

First Name: Jin

Last Name: Chang

City: Pearl City

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96782





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:nanakuliballer56@yahoo.com)

First Name: Jimmy

Last Name: Edsell

City: Waiane

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792

## 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](mailto:jeberle@patch-hi.org)

First Name: Jim

Last Name: Eberle

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744





## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:11 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** ewa@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JESSICA KUAMOO	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO THE BILL SO THAT OUR SECOND OFFICIAL LANGUAGE PRESCHOOLS ARE NOT LEFT OUT! mahalo nui

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jenniferulibas@gmail.com)

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Ulibas

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:41 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jthom@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Thomson	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:21 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** honu14@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Shirai	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095. My child is thriving in a Hawaiian Medium education. Please give other the children the same opportunity.

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

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**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](mailto:jeanniejeffery@aol.com)

First Name: Jeannie

Last Name: Jeffery

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jayne.sanjose@yahoo.com)

First Name: Jayne

Last Name: San Jose

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:2hapa@sbcglobal.net)

First Name: Jaycee

Last Name: Doroen

City: Sacramento  
State: CA  
ZIP Code: 95823





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:16 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nobeunz@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javen Kekoa Cuban	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support this bill ONLY with the Pūnana Leo Ammendments!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jkealohagier@seagullschools.com)

First Name: Janice

Last Name: Gier

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:53 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** janice.bueltmann@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janice Bueltmann	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Punana Leo amendments.

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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: 

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jdickson@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Jane

Last Name: Dickson

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:janebargiel@gmail.com)

First Name: jane

Last Name: bargiel

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



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jlyngoya@hawaiiantel.net)

First Name: Jamie

Last Name: Goya

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jlittle@hawaii.edu)

First Name: james

Last Name: little

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96815



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:jdudock@gmail.com)

First Name: Jacqueline

Last Name: Dudock

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96821





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:ikosasa@ficoh.com)

First Name: Isaac

Last Name: Kosasa

City: Aiea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96701



## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:34 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** mzaloha07@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ipo Ka'upu-Kuahiwinui	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 12:54 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** i\_bagood@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Iokepa Bagood	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I support this bill, however, please do not forget about the Aha Punana Leo and the children they serve, pre-schoolers learning the native language of this land, and an official language of this state. They deserve a fair share because they are also early childhood educators. So please consider the amendments of the Aha Punana Leo. Mahalo, Iokepa Bagood

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:08 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hoonanis@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ho onani Na auao	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support this bill with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:21 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hokukane@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hokuokalani Patoc	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I Support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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

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**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](mailto:htrenhaile53@hotmail.com)

First Name: hannah

Last Name: trenhaile

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:34 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hananuispencer@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hana Spencer	Parent at Pūnana Leo o Mānoa	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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

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**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](mailto:gfarstrup@msn.com)

First Name: Greg and Pat

Last Name: Farstrup

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96813





## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

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

First Name: Georgette

Last Name: Luppino

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96821



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:puanani_677@excite.com)

First Name: GEnavi

Last Name: Pablico

City: waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:gaylacoloma@gmail.com)

First Name: Gayla

Last Name: Coloma

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:gflynn@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Gale

Last Name: Flynn

City: Hon

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

## FINTestimony

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**From:** Faye Furutomo [rose438@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): [rose438@gmail.com](mailto:rose438@gmail.com)

First Name: Faye

Last Name: Furutomo

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813





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 1095: Relating to the Early Childhood Education**

I submit this testimony **in strong support of SB 1095 SD2, HD1 Relating to Early Childhood Education program**, which provides for a state-funded voluntary early childhood program to be administered by the executive office on early learning.

Only one in five Hawaii's kindergarten classes have ¾ of the children ready to begin. We now know that quality early childhood education and care (ECEC) programs make a difference. Starting school with the crucial readiness skills positively affects future learning outcomes. Erasing the opportunity gap for our most at-risk children is the right thing to do for Hawaii's future. Early education must be available for children who cannot afford preschool.

Evidence continues to build as to the long-term efficacy of this investment. Just last week, the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) "released an update to its Abbott Preschool Program Longitudinal Effects Study (APPLES), which found that children in low-income districts who participated in the state-funded pre-K program make significant gains in literacy, language, math and science through fourth and fifth grade."

*Please note that Hawaii may be eligible to bring in new federal dollars under President Obama's recently proposed preschool program –**however** - only if Hawaii is already investing state money in such a program. It would be very unfortunate for Hawaii to miss this partnership opportunity.*

This program will utilize both Department of Education (DOE) sites and private providers and thereby utilizing the expertise and experience of community wide programs. This is not about a new bureaucracy.

Also, the early education programs allowable as "private providers of early childhood education." must **include Family Child Interaction Learning (FCIL)** providers who dramatically increase the families' involvement in their young child's education. This option has proven to be critical to many families, and most especially Native Hawaiian families.

The 2012 legislation ending Junior Kindergarten program in 2014-15 will result in over 5000 children born August to December not entering school until they are almost six years old. This "older class" of kindergarten children will be more on par with other states entry requirements. Except ---those other states HAVE state funded early learning programs.

In 2012, the promise was that there will be an early learning program for these children – especially starting with the more at-risk and low-income children who cannot afford another year of preschool – or more to the fact – could never afford preschool. **Are we going to just forget these families and their children?**

Contact Information: [lizchun@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:lizchun@hawaii.rr.com).  
808-226-2619



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:11 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** emoos42@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Evelyn Moos	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support the 'Aha Punana Leo suggested amendments to the Early Education Bill SB 1095.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:24 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** eva@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eva Naniolo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support the Aha Punana Leo s suggested ammendments to the Early Education Bill SB 1095.

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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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~~ <sup>secretary</sup>, 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

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 9:18 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kapela.kaulana@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eva Eli	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha kākou, As a continuing ohana at Pūnana Leo o Wai anae, we SUPPORT THE PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS SOUGHT TO INCLUDE HAWAIIAN MEDIUM EDUCATION IN SB1095. As an official language of the state of Hawai i, Hawaiian language education should be supported and encouraged by this state and its leadership. We trust that your judgment will concur. Mahalo nui for your consideration. Kapela Eli Pūnana Leo o Wai anae Nānākuli, HI

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

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**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](mailto:sistaone@hotmail.com)



First Name: Eugenie

Last Name: Naone

City: Ewa Beach

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96706

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:spsiyal@gmail.com)

First Name: Esperanza

Last Name: Siyal

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797



## **FINTestimony**

---

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 7:18 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** erikacomrie@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erika Comrie	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 4:35 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Erica\_Aki@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Erica Aki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Punana Leo amendment SB1095.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 10:01 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** eomailani@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eomailani Kukahiko	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: In support of this bill I would also like to strongly recommend that it be amended to include Hawaiian language education as an area of focus in early education.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:37 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** leilei@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Emily Stills	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Punana Leo s amendments

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:44 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kulia@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elisa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments. Mahalo.

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 8:34 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** elijah.kalani.isaac@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elijah Isaac	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO BILL SB1095.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:elainey208@gmail.com)

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [elainey208@gmail.com](mailto:elainey208@gmail.com)

First Name: Elaine

Last Name: Yamashita

City: Kula

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96790



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 11:40 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** cain@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Eileen Cain	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill WITH PUNANA LEO AMENDMENTS. The PUNANA LEO AMENDMENTS need to be included because the Hawaiian language schools are an important part of early childhood education in Hawai'i. As a professor of English, I assure Senators that the Punana Leo provide cognitive skills and flexibility that enable children to learn other subjects, including English. Please include these amendments. Mahalo!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:noon_new19@hotmail.com)

First Name: Duangkamol

Last Name: Chairat

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797



## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:54 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** lornawil@uvic.ca  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Dr. Lorna Williams	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support the passage of the bill to make Early Childhood education available to all children and especially to Native Hawaiians - and esrly childhood education that includes their Hawaiian language and culture.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:34 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** swaneyohana@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Douglas Swaney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [dlching@aol.com](mailto:dlching@aol.com)

First Name: Donna

Last Name: Ching

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:53 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hi.dinaw@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dina Washington	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:aubreyy@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Aubrey

Last Name: Yee

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:dtabangay@ymcahonolulu.org)

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Tabangay

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:dijaco888@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Arconado

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793



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  
Per Hr 96782



## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [darakaki@kamaile.org](mailto:darakaki@kamaile.org)

First Name: diane

Last Name: arakaki

City: pearl city

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96782

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: 

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:ae101_2006@yahoo.com)

First Name: Davy

Last Name: Oshiro

City: waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 9:05 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kkamai@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Kamai Jr.	Individual	Support	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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## 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

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [dgoya@pidfoundation.org](mailto:dgoya@pidfoundation.org)

First Name: daniel

Last Name: goya

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:03 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kaleogirl@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dana K. Hayashida	Individual	Support	No

Comments: SUPPORT PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS

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## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [dtomonari@hotmail.com](mailto:dtomonari@hotmail.com)

First Name: Dana Anne

Last Name: Tomonari

City: Waianae

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792





## FINTestimony

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**From:** Dan S. Yoshizumi Jr. [dyoshizumi@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 5:38 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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [dyoshizumi@aol.com](mailto:dyoshizumi@aol.com)

First Name: Dan S.

Last Name: Yoshizumi Jr.

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## FINTestimony

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**From:** Cynthia Izumi [tamariko@me.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:14 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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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [tamariko@me.com](mailto:tamariko@me.com)

First Name: Cynthia

Last Name: Izumi

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96822



## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [giambay\\_olter@yahoo.com](mailto:giambay_olter@yahoo.com)

First Name: Cinzia

Last Name: Olter

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826





## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [seagull@aloha.com](mailto:seagull@aloha.com)

First Name: Chuck Larson

Last Name: Larson

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734



## FINTestimony

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**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.

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Form Data:

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

First Name: Christy

Last Name: Ryan

City: Wahiawa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96786



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:cgiannaris@mac.com)

First Name: Christopher

Last Name: Giannaris

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:nkahawaiolaa@pidfoundation.org)

First Name: Christmas N.

Last Name: Kahawaiolaa

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96817



## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:48 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** chrisannekaawa@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Chrisanne Kaawa	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: O au o Kawohikukapulai Kaawa Pūnana Leo preschools statewide are gearing up for a crucial legislative hearing tmrw at the state Capitol. Over the past few months, much publicity has circulated regarding a need for mandatory preschool for ALL 4 year olds. These bills (SB1093 & SB1095) however EXCLUDE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE preschools in its state wide mandate. We SUPPORT SB1093 & SB1095 for mandatory preschools for all 4 year olds. We just ask that they INCLUDE PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS to offer equal privilege to our Hawaiian language preschools as well. As our community representatives, we are seeking your support in ensuring that our keiki will be offered the same opportunities to education in whichever language we see fit, English or Hawaiian. AS OUR REPS, WHAT IS YOUR POSITION REGARDING THE INCLUSION OF PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS TO SB1093 & SB1095. (Details regarding the amendments sought have been previously forwarded via KAPELA ELI.) I will wait for your response and hope that you too may find great value in the opportunities offered by our Pūnana Leo here in Waianae. I look forward to your response!

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:chloef@hawaii.edu)

First Name: Chloe

Last Name: Fonacier

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:ctabaco001@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Cheryl

Last Name: Tabaco

City: Haiku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96708



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:04 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** chaz\_meyers@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chaz Meyers	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I support Punana Leo amendments to Bill SB1095.

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

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**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](mailto:mom2gs@msn.com)

First Name: Charlotte

Last Name: Maddock

City: Waianae

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:cntand@gmail.com)

First Name: Charlene

Last Name: Doi

City: Haiku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96708





## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:charlene.burgess7@gmail.com)

First Name: Charlene

Last Name: Burgess

City: Lihue

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96766



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 9:32 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** cmanuel@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Charla Manuel	Aha Punana Leo	Support	No

Comments: "I support this bill with Punana Leo Amendments."

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kukona.lucero@gmail.com)

First Name: Chanelle

Last Name: Kukona Lucero

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:23 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** uilani81@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
chalia keanu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support this bill will aha punana leo s ammendments

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:51 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** cassie.olaitiman@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM\*

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cassie	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

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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

**Ho'olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**wai** (Meeting Room): Conference Room 308 House Finance

**mike** (Committee): House Finance

**Pila** (Bill): SB1095, SD2 HD1  
(Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Kumu**

**Mana'o** (Position): LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS  
Attached)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee,

‘O au ‘o Andria Tupola a he makua au ma ka Pūnana Leo o Wai□ anae.  
My name is Andria Tupola and I am a parent at the Pūnana Leo o Wai□ anae.

nana Le

nana Leo preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system AND to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce and curriculum development THROUGH its laboratory status under the Hawaiian Language College which has supported our efforts of Hawaiian language revitalization over the last 30 years and for which the specialized training, professional development, curriculum and Hawaiian language support is unavailable from the mainstream English preschool system.

nana Leo is a non profit Native Hawaiian Education organization. We are the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. Our preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool through doctorate) Hawai

nana Leo keiki are prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian. Several provisions of the state constitution as well as federal legislation call for special attention to the unique needs of teaching through Hawaiian. The state has been involved in developing quality education through Hawaiian since 1997, when the legislature established the Hawaiian language college with a mandate to serve education through Hawaiian with a laboratory school program. HRS 304A-1301 establishes the Hawaiian la

nana Leo schools function as laboratory schools of the college.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Mahalo nui.

Amendments	Rationale
Sec. 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide early education program <b>in both official languages of the state with distinctive attention to the endangered Hawaiian language</b> , said program consisting of providers of ....	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai‘i Constitution Official Languages Article XV Section 4.</li> </ul>
Sec. 2. 302L Early childhood education program (a)....  1. Prepare children for school and to actively participate in society <b>with distinctive pathways for schooling through either of the two official state languages</b> ; and  2. <b>Provide access to high-quality early childhood education, focused on equity, that addresses children’s physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development as well as Chapter X Section 4 of the State Constitution.</b>	<p>lelo Hawai‘i-the Hawaiian language shall live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawaiian language is medium of instruction.</li> </ul> <p>nana Leo is the only Hawaiian medium education (HME) statewide provider serving 250 keiki, 11 months, full day at 11 centers on Hawai‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu and Kaua‘i.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai‘i is a national and international leader, and has the most successful model of endangered, indigenous language revitalization. •These amendments are relevant to the State of Hawai‘i’s Context for Early Learning</li> </ul>



<p>(b)... (1)... (2)... (c)... (d)... Eligible providers shall meet, or develop plans to meet, the <b>distinctive Hawaiian and English medium</b> standards established under the early....</p> <p>(e) The early childhood education program standards for <b>English medium early education</b> shall:</p>	<p>Language Matters. The National Academy of Sciences research on the Role of Language reveals that characteristics of a speaker’s language influence the quantitative skills of the child. Languages also differ in important ways in the clarity and consistency reflected in actual number names. The study found that speakers of languages whose number names are patterned after Chinese (like Hawaiian) are better able than speakers of English to represent numbers using base ten blocks and to perform other place value tasks.</p> <p>In addition to the advantage in the way Hawaiian represents mathematical concepts, the role of language also influences the rate of early reading acquisition. Hawaiian language has its advantages in its syllabic system of early reading. These are advantages of learning through Hawaiian language and for which distinct standards be adopted in the Early Education program.                   Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood:</p>
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<p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(f)...</p> <p>(g)...</p> <p>(h)..</p> <p><u>(i) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section all laboratory schools of the state Hawaiian language college shall:</u></p> <p><u>(1) qualify as part of the early childhood education program when serving children under the state minimum age for kindergarten enrollment; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) have their providers deemed eligible providers of the early childhood education program.</u></p>	<p>Paths Towards Excellence and Equity;</p> <p>nana Leo preschools are laboratory schools of the state’s Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawai’i at Hilo. As such, ‘APL has been working with the college in teacher recruitment, curriculum development, teacher training and professional development. The ECE framework for the state’s early education initiative is geared towards English language preschools. Policies that require participation based in the English language potentially</p> <p>nana Leo which is the protection, promotion and revitalization of Hawaiian. This amendment will provide a safe harbor for HME to participate as provider while working towards building capacity of a workforce and moving closer towards a more complete equitable early learning system in a state with two official languages.</p>
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**Lā Ho'olohe Pila (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p**

**Lumi hālāwai (Meeting Room) Conference Room 308  
Kōmike (Committee) House Finance**

**Pila (Bill) SB1095, SD2 HD1**

**Kumu (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**Mana'o (Position): KĀKO OME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS  
Attached)**

**Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and  
members of the House Finance Committee.**

**'O au 'o Alohalani Ho, ke Kahu o ka Pūnana Leo o Mānoa.  
My name is Alohalani Ho, Director of Pūnana Leo o Mānoa.**

**Pūnana Leo o Mānoa is one of 11 Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian Medium preschools  
sites. We provide the opportunity for our keiki to learn our native language and  
culture at the preschool level. As a product of Pūnana Leo, an ohana in the  
program, and a Director of Pūnana Leo o Mānoa, I know first hand how important  
early learning education is for our keiki. And with that I see a bigger importance  
that we include the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments into this bill for our state has  
two official languages.**

**I believe that Hawai'i is not Hawai'i without our Hawaiian language and culture.  
The language and culture is what makes Hawai'i unique. Aha Pūnana Leo has  
played a large role over the past 30 years in the revitalization of our native  
language. Pūnana Leo is the only statewide provider of early education and care  
through the medium of Hawaiian. We need to provide equal opportunity for our  
native Hawaiian speaking keiki. Through our keiki our language will live. And as a  
product of Pūnana Leo, I stand as a strong example that early education is  
important. We build the foundation at the early education level for our keiki. Most  
of our students at Pūnana Leo speak both Hawaiian and English. And they are  
able to learn both languages, because, at the early education level our keikis can  
retain so much information. Their brains are like sponges.**

**We need to build solid foundations for our keiki. We need to look at the bigger  
picture. I want our native language to live forever. So, I came back to educate our  
keiki in our native language, so that they will be able to come back someday, and  
take my place. We are not going to live forever. We need to make sure that we  
provide every opportunity for the future generation to succeed. We want Hawai'i  
to thrive. So, we need to provide the education necessary to do so. And that starts  
at the early learning education age. But we must not forget that Hawai'i has two  
official languages. And we want both languages to thrive. "E ola ka ʻōlelo  
Hawai'i. The Hawaiian Language shall live"**

**Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.**

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

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: 

**Ho‘olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**wai** (Meeting Room): Conference Room 308 House Finance  
(Committee): House Finance

**mike**

**Pila** (Bill): SB1095, SD2 HD1  
(Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Kumu**

**Mana‘o** (Position): LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS  
Attached)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee,

‘O au ‘o Ashly Kēhaulani Vida a he kumu au ma ka Pūnana Leo o Waiānae.  
My name is Ashly Kēhaulani Vida and I am a teacher at the Pūnana Leo o Waiānae.

The

nana Leo preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system AND to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce and curriculum development THROUGH its laboratory status under the Hawaiian Language College which has supported our efforts of Hawaiian language revitalization over the last 30 years and for which the specialized training, professional development, curriculum and Hawaiian language support is unavailable from the mainstream English preschool system.

nana Leo is a non profit Native Hawaiian Education organization. We are the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. Our preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool through doctorate) Hawaiian Medium Education system nana Leo keiki are prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian. Several provisions of the state constitution as well as federal legislation call for special attention to the unique needs of teaching through Hawaiian. The state has been involved in developing quality education through Hawaiian since 1997, when the legislature established the Hawaiian language college with a mandate to serve education through Hawaiian with a laboratory school program. HRS 304A-1301 establishes the Hawaiian language laboratory schools of the college.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Mahalo nui.



Amendments	Rationale
Sec. 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide early education program <b>in both official languages of the state with distinctive attention to the endangered Hawaiian language</b> , said program consisting of providers of ....	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai‘i Constitution Official Languages Article XV Section 4.</li> </ul>
Sec. 2. 302L Early childhood education program (a)....  1. Prepare children for school and to actively participate in society <b>with distinctive pathways for schooling through either of the two official state languages</b> ; and  2. <b>Provide access to high-quality early childhood education, focused on equity, that addresses children’s physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development as well as Chapter X Section 4 of the State Constitution.</b>	<p>lelo Hawai‘i-the Hawaiian language shall live.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawaiian language is medium of instruction.</li> </ul> <p>nana Leo is the only Hawaiian medium education (HME) statewide provider serving 250 keiki, 11 months, full day at 11 centers on Hawai‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu and Kaua‘i.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai‘i is a national and international leader, and has the most successful model of endangered, indigenous language revitalization. •These amendments are relevant to the State of Hawai‘i’s Context for Early Learning</li> </ul>
(b)... (1)... (2)... (c)... (d)... Eligible providers shall meet, or develop plans to meet, the <b>distinctive Hawaiian and English medium</b> standards established under the early.... (e) The early childhood education program standards <b>for English medium early education</b> shall:	<p>Language Matters. The National Academy of Sciences research on the Role of Language reveals that characteristics of a speaker’s language influence the quantitative skills of the child. Languages also differ in important ways in the clarity and consistency reflected in actual number names. The study found that speakers of languages whose number names are patterned after Chinese (like Hawaiian) are better able than speakers of English to represent numbers using base ten blocks and to perform other place value tasks.</p> <p>In addition to the advantage in the way Hawaiian represents mathematical concepts, the role of language also influences the rate of early reading acquisition. Hawaiian language has its advantages in its syllabic system of early reading. These are advantages of learning through Hawaiian language and for which distinct standards be adopted in the Early Education program. Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood:</p>



<p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(f)...</p> <p>(g)...</p> <p>(h)..</p> <p><u>(i) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section all laboratory schools of the state Hawaiian language college shall:</u></p> <p><u>(1) qualify as part of the early childhood education program when serving children under the state minimum age for kindergarten enrollment; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) have their providers deemed eligible providers of the early childhood education program.</u></p>	<p>nana Leo preschools are laboratory schools of the state's Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. As such, 'APL has been working with the college in teacher recruitment, curriculum development, teacher training and professional development. The ECE framework for the state's early education initiative is geared towards English language preschools. Policies that require participation based in the English language po</p> <p>nana Leo which is the protection, promotion and revitalization of Hawaiian. This amendment will provide a safe harbor for HME to participate as provider while working towards building capacity of a workforce and moving closer towards a more complete equitable early learning system in a state with two official languages.</p>
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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: Jmoa3p@yahoo.com

Signature: Bronson Paris

P.O. Box 2692 Waiānana HI 96792

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 Nohoi Kai

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

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Florian Tom Johnson from Rough Rock Community School in northeastern Arizona and know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo through my collaboration with Punana Leo on indigenous language renewal through schooling.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Our program is similar to Punana Leo's program where we enroll students in our program beginning at prenatal. A longitudinal case study with data collection on our early childhood students indicate that children completing our early childhood program and entering Kindergarten ready-to-learn have always been at expected grade-level academic achievement and continue to stay at that level for the remainder of their K-12 academic careers.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,



Florian Tom Johnson  
Director of Navajo Studies  
Rough Rock Community School, Chinle, Arizona

## Support for SB1095

I am in full support of this program, which creates a comprehensive system to provide early learning activities to our young children prior to entering kindergarten. Having services delivered through both the DOE and private preschool settings gives families choices that suit their child's and family's needs. It will ensure that our state's youngest children receive a high quality educational experience that prepares them for success in school and beyond.

I urge legislators to take the necessary bold step at this time and recognize the overwhelming research and data that supports early learning activities for children before they enter kindergarten.

Having been part of the early childhood community on Maui for 35 years – as a Head Start teacher, as a DOE teacher, and as a member of numerous committees, initiatives, and projects -- I fully understand the need for a comprehensive early learning system that includes both the public and private settings.

I strongly support toward the creation of a comprehensive early learning system. Now is the time!

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 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 Puhikani St  
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

a player  
which we need  
bigger nizer on  
all throughout  
our states.  
& Pre sch &  
programs funded  
all are crucial

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

My name is Elvera Sargent, Friends of the Akwesasne Freedom School, and know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo through visits with each others' schools to exchange ideas and best practices for teaching our culture and languages to our children.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Our school, the Akwesasne Freedom School, was founded in 1979 by Mohawk parents who wanted to take back control of who, how and what their children would be taught. The school has had great success in teaching knowledge and skills related to traditional earth based cultural practices to our youth and promoting Mohawk language fluency in our students.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programing.

Sincerely,  
Elvera Sargent,  
Friends of the Akwesasne Freedom School

‘O au ‘o Hiwahiwa Castillo, he haumana wau ma ke kula kaiapuni o ‘Anuenue. My name is Hiwahiwa Castillo, and I am a student of Ke kula kaiapuni o ‘Anuenue. I am a graduate from Punana Leo o Honolulu. I am here today to ask that you support the amendments that ‘Aha Punana Leo has made to this bill. ‘Olelo Hawai‘i is very important to my ‘ohana and our community.

Mahalo,

Hiwahiwa Castillo



Testimony of DUSTIN CABAN

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 CABAN

Ph or Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: 

**Lā Ho‘olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room): Conference Room 308

**Kōmike** (Committee): House Finance

**Pila** (Bill): SB1095, SD2 HD1

**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Mana‘o** (Position): KĀKO‘O ME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee

‘O Kaleimaile Robia ko‘u inoa. He kumu alaka‘i au ma ka Pūnana Leo o Maui. My name is Kaleimaile Robia. I am a lead teacher at Pūnana Leo o Maui.

As a Hawaiian Medium educator in Pūnana Leo I have seen benefits and success in children that come through our program. Throughout the years I have come to know many families. I have also seen families having to pull out their child from school due to financial difficulties.

Please support said bill with amendments. This will help our families and benefit our children of Hawai‘i learning through the medium of our mother tongue.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Mahalo nui

**Lā Ho‘olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room): Conference Room 308 House Finance  
**Kōmike** (Committee): House Finance

**Pila** (Bill): SB1095, SD2 HD1  
**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Mana‘o** (Position): KĀKO‘O ME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS Attached)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee,

‘O au ‘o Kamakalikolehua Ligon a he kumu au ma ka Pūnana Leo o Wai‘anae.  
My name is Kamakalikolehua Ligon and I am a teacher at the Pūnana Leo o Wai‘anae.

The ‘Aha Pūnana Leo continues to support these early learning initiatives with amendments that clarify the context for early learning in our state with two official languages. These amendments will allow the ONLY statewide Pūnana Leo preschools Hawaiian medium early learning to be a part of the state system AND to continue the development of quality standards, teacher training, workforce and curriculum development THROUGH its laboratory status under the Hawaiian Language College which has supported our efforts of Hawaiian language revitalization over the last 30 years and for which the specialized training, professional development, curriculum and Hawaiian language support is unavailable from the mainstream English preschool system.

The ‘Aha Pūnana Leo is a non profit Native Hawaiian Education organization. We are the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. Our preschools are connected to a statewide P-20 (preschool through doctorate) Hawaiian Medium Education system. Pūnana Leo keiki are prepared to enter kindergarten taught through Hawaiian. Several provisions of the state constitution as well as federal legislation call for special attention to the unique needs of teaching through Hawaiian. The state has been involved in developing quality education through Hawaiian since 1997, when the legislature established the Hawaiian language college with a mandate to serve education through Hawaiian with a laboratory school program. HRS 304A-1301 establishes the Hawaiian language college and a laboratory school program as a function of the college. The Pūnana Leo schools function as laboratory schools of the college.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Mahalo nui.

'Aha Pūnana Leo Amendments For Early Childhood Education	
SB 1095 SD2 HD1	
Amendments	Rationale
Sec. 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide early education program <b>in both official languages of the state with distinctive attention to the endangered Hawaiian language</b> , said program consisting of providers of ....	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Hawai'i Constitution Official Languages Article XV Section 4.</li> </ul>
Sec. 2. 302L Early childhood education program (a)....  1. Prepare children for school and to actively participate in society <b>with distinctive pathways for schooling through either of the two official state languages</b> ; and  2. <b>Provide access to high-quality early childhood education, focused on equity, that addresses children's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development as well as Chapter X Section 4 of the State Constitution.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•'Aha Pūnana Leo established in 1983 E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i--the Hawaiian language shall live.</li> <li>•Hawaiian language is medium of instruction.</li> <li>• 'Aha Pūnana Leo is the only Hawaiian medium education (HME) statewide provider serving 250 keiki, 11 months, full day at 11 centers on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i.</li> <li>•Hawai'i is a national and international leader, and has the most successful model of endangered, indigenous language revitalization.</li> <li>•These amendments are relevant to the State of Hawai'i's Context for Early Learning</li> </ul>

<p>(b)...</p> <p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(c)...</p> <p>(d)... Eligible providers shall meet, or develop plans to meet, the <b>distinctive Hawaiian and English medium</b> standards established under the early....</p> <p>(e) The early childhood education program standards <b>for English medium early education</b> shall:</p>	<p>Language Matters. The National Academy of Sciences research on the Role of Language reveals that characteristics of a speaker's language influence the quantitative skills of the child. Languages also differ in important ways in the clarity and consistency reflected in actual number names. The study found that speakers of languages whose number names are patterned after Chinese (like Hawaiian) are better able than speakers of English to represent numbers using base ten blocks and to perform other place value tasks.</p> <p>In addition to the advantage in the way Hawaiian represents mathematical concepts, the role of language also influences the rate of early reading acquisition. Hawaiian language has its advantages in its syllabic system of early reading. These are advantages of learning through Hawaiian language and for which distinct standards be adopted in the Early Education program.</p> <p>Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood:</p>
<p>..</p>	<p>Paths Towards Excellence and Equity; National Academy of Sciences.</p>



<p>(1)...</p> <p>(2)...</p> <p>(f)...</p> <p>(g)...</p> <p>(h)...</p> <p><u>(i) Notwithstanding any provisions of this section all laboratory schools of the state Hawaiian language college shall:</u></p> <p><u>(1) qualify as part of the early childhood education program when serving children under the state minimum age for kindergarten enrollment; and</u></p> <p><u>(2) have their providers deemed eligible providers of the early childhood education program.</u></p>	<p>The ‘Aha Pūnana Leo preschools are laboratory schools of the state’s Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. As such, ‘APL has been working with the college in teacher recruitment, curriculum development, teacher training and professional development. The ECE framework for the state’s early education initiative is geared towards English language preschools. Policies that require participation based in the English language potentially disenfranchises Hawaiian speaking children and families and is harmful to the goal of Pūnana Leo which is the protection, promotion and revitalization of Hawaiian. This amendment will provide a safe harbor for HME to participate as provider while working towards building capacity of a workforce and moving closer towards a more complete equitable early learning system in a state with two official languages.</p>
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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

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Kenneth Rehg, and I know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo through Larry Kimura and William Wilson.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break new ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,

Kenneth L. Rehg

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Katarina Edmonds General Manager Māori, Learning Media Limited; a Māori Language Commissioner of the New Zealand Māori Language Commission; The Director of Hākoni Limited a Māori Education Consultancy. I have known the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo from its many and long association with the Māori medium education sector in Aotearoa-New Zealand, such as Te Kōhanga Reo (Early Childhood Language Nests) National Trust and the Kura Kaupapa Māori movement. I recently graduated with my PhD in Hawaiian and Indigenous Language and Culture Revitalisation in the UH Hilo Doctoral Programme. Myself, and many of my colleagues involved in Māori language revitalisation through education, particularly, indigenous language revitalisation, continue to have a strong relationship with the Hawaiian language community.

Having taught and conducted research across the Māori-medium education sector from early childhood through to tertiary, I can say. as a Māori and native speaker of Māori that the amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

In 2009 I accompanied Te Kura Mana Māori o Whangaparaoa on a visit to Hilo. The focus of this Māori immersion school visit was to gain insight into

the programmes facilitated by UH Hilo, and those conducted at ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u. The school was much impressed with the Punana Leo and Hi'ipepe programme.

Learning Media Limited has published resources in the Māori language for over sixty years and continues to support Māori-medium education as part of the New Zealand Ministry of Education provision of services. In support of programmes such as the Punana Leo our next publication for students *Toi Te Kupu*, includes an article about ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programing.

Sincerely,

Dr Katarina Edmonds  
Te Whānau-ā-Apanui, Ngāti Porou  
General Manager Māori Learning Media Limited  
[katarina.edmonds@learningmedia.co.nz](mailto:katarina.edmonds@learningmedia.co.nz)

**Lā Ho'olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): Tuesday, April 2, 2013 2:00p  
**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room) Conference Room 308  
**Kōmike** (Committee) House Finance Committee

**Pila** (Bill) SB1095, SD2 HD1  
**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
**Mana'o** (Position): KĀKO'O ME NĀ LOLI (**SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Christal Ku'ulei Paraso. I am a Hawaiian Immersion Teacher at Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Nānākuli, the Hawaiian Immersion Program at Nānākuli Elementary. I am also the parent of children who attend Hawaiian Immersion schools.

I urge you to support the specific amendments submitted by 'Aha Pūnana Leo that address (1) Hawai'i's two official languages; and (2) quality standards through the laboratory school program of the University of Hawai'i's Hawaiian language college.

The Pūnana Leo has done an incredible job over the last 30 years in bringing to the forefront a vision of a vibrant living Hawaiian language, first through the creation of its preschools to supporting the growth vertically for a P-20 Hawaiian Medium Education System.

Kindergarten at Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Nānākuli is conducted through Hawaiian. Our kindergarten students are taught initial reading through Hawaiian rather than through English. Students who come from Pūnana Leo into kindergarten are able to perform better in reading than children who attended English medium preschools or children who have no preschool experience. Pūnana Leo children have prior Hawaiian Language knowledge and experience. Both Pūnana Leo and Kula Kaiapuni teach reading using the Hakalama syllable chart.

HRS 304A-1301 establishes the Hawaiian language college and a laboratory school program as a function of the college. The Pūnana Leo schools are laboratory schools of the college. The Pūnana Leo receives Hawaiian language early education and care support from the college.

The proposed amendments remove barriers to participation in the state's initiatives for Hawaiian medium preschools, which lack access to resources and support easily accessible to mainstream English medium preschools

These amendments are necessary for the inclusion of the Pūnana Leo in a state initiative without jeopardizing the goal of the program that is to promote, protect and revitalize Hawaiian.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo nui,

Christal Ku'ulei Paraso  
cparaso@hawaii.rr.com

**Lā Ho‘olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): 04-02-2013 2:00p

**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room): Conference Room 308 House Finance

**Kōmike** (Committee)

**Pila** (Bill): SB1095, SD2 HD1

**Kumu** (Purpose): RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

**Mana‘o** (Position): KĀKO‘O ME NĀ LOLI (SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS Attached)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is P. Kanoe Kanaka‘ole, I am a parent of a Pūnana Leo graduate and would like to offer my support of bill SB1095, SD2 HD1 with amendments submitted by the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo (\*attached). The unique qualities of our status, as the only state in the union; which recognizes both the native Hawaiian and English language as official state languages, must be addressed in all facets of government, especially education.

Students who attend Hawaiian medium and Hawaiian language immersion schools will benefit greatly by the establishment of a Hawaiian medium education track which supports the development of highly proficient bilingual speakers. This is critical to the future of the state of Hawai‘i as global leaders in the area of indigenous perspective and way of life.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Na‘u me ke aloha ‘ōlelo,  
Na P. Kanoe Kanaka‘ole



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

Testimony of Ku'ulani Keohokalole

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 2, 2013

Time: 2:00 p.m.

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 support these measures wholeheartedly, and this is why:**

As a parent of a 2 year old, I know the value of early learning. Sure, grandma and grandpa who are both in their early sixties and retired could have watched him full-time, saving us money. We pay \$650.00 per month out of pocket, living on one full-time income (my husband is a full-time law student at UH). But we know the importance of his attending preschool, for several reasons:

1. We cannot assume that grandparents are the solution to this issue. We are fortunate to have one set of parents that are home, true; yet, *Center on the Family* has reported less and less grandparents spending time with their grandchildren, due to the demands of a rough economy, and people having to work well into their sixties to make ends meet. I've heard some lawmakers say that "well, grandparents can watch children". But the reality is, many are not at home to do so!
2. Without the proper tools or conducive learning environment, grandparents who ARE watching grandchildren under the age of 5, are not adequately preparing children for Kindergarten. In far too many households, the TV becomes a grandparent's best aid, and while the shows have improved to be more educational, the social interaction, outside time, creative play, and structured learning is far lacking in those environments.

In addition, many times a sore lack of nutrition accompanies the TV watching, so children under the age of 5 are basing their diet on whatever is provided them, whether it is McDonald's, processed, or junk food, in a time where their brain and nutritional development is so crucially important at their foundation.

3. In an age where No Child Left Behind has upped the stakes for even the littlest of school-aged children, those kids who come into school without the proper readiness (being able to share, sit down, listen, not be constantly distracted and hitting or bullying other children) already start off behind.

And now that Junior Kindergarten is essentially gone, this means that some children will be behind as they begin school nearly turning 6 years old. Knowing how rapidly these little brains develop, we need to do something NOW, while we can have so much impact on their development.

It behooves our state to make this important investment in our keiki. Do we want:

- more high school and college graduates?
- a stronger, more prepared and educated workforce?
- less people in homelessness?
- less crime and less people to house in prisons?

Then we need to start now. This is the answer. Thousands of families around Hawai'i like us know the importance of sacrificing and making the investment. It's now on the legislators to come to that same important realization.

Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on these measures and I pray that you continue to move forward with this – for the keiki – and future of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Ku'ulani Keohokalole, M.A.  
[kuukeoho@gmail.com](mailto:kuukeoho@gmail.com)

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 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 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



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 1095

Thank you,

Richard Emery  
1555 Kalani Iki St  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96821

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](mailto:chunrsb@gmail.com)

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 or entering college.

Name: Lou-Ann N. Adams

Ph or Email: luanac@hawaii.rr.com

Signature: Lou-Ann N. Adams

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Tuihana Pook, Principal of Te Kura Mana Maori o Whangaparāoa, a Year 1 -15, total immersion special character kura, based at Cape Runaway on the East Coast of New Zealand. My iwi is Te Whanau-a Apanui. Recently, I have established a Puna Reo at my kura with a graduate of Te Kura Kaupapa Maori Teacher Training Programme. Our programme is based on our special character charter established by our whanau recognizing our indigenous language and culture as well as our tribal dialect. It is not a translated version of an early childhood mainstream programme. "We have been there, done that and it doesn't work."

For the past 35 years, I have taught and conducted research across the Māori –medium education sector from early childhood to secondary school and fully support the theory that education has to reflect and develop the Indigenous culture, including its specific ways of teaching and learning. This is what the amendments will enable.

In 2009, I accompanied a group of my students on a visit to ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u and was very impressed with the Hi'ipepe programme and Punana Leo. As a Māori and a native speaker of Māori who has been involved in Māori language revitalisation through education, I totally support the amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaii to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Again, I urge you to please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities all over the world to move forward with similar legislation and programing.

Kia kaha, kia manawanui.

Sincerely,  
Tuihana Pook (QSM)  
[t.pook@xtra.co.nz](mailto:t.pook@xtra.co.nz)





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: lorenzon005@hawaii.rr.com

Signature: 

## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 10:06 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** adochin@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Adam Mahi`ai Dochin	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with `Aha Punana Leo's amendments

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**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 9:32 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** swaneyohana1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aimee Swaney	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am dr. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, professor emerita, Åbo Akademi University, Dept of Education, Finland, and Roskilde University, Dept of Languages and culture, Denmark. See my home page, [www.Tove-Skutnabb-Kangas.org](http://www.Tove-Skutnabb-Kangas.org), and my signature in my email for some recent books. I have known the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo more or less from when they started, through many colleagues and friends. I have been really inspired by their work, and have presented it in many lectures and seminars around the world. I am in constant contact with them. Kauanoe Kamanā and William H. Wilson have, among other things, written a back cover blurb for the book (2013) that I wrote together with Marja-Liisa Olthuis and Suvi Kivelä, *Revitalise Indigenous Languages. How to recreate a lost working-age generation* (Bristol: Multilingual Matters); the book describes a spectacular revitalisation of the Indigenous Aanaar Saami language (some 350 speakers) in Finland.

Having written and edited several books on Linguistic Human Rights, especially in education, I can certainly say that the amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed. It is an acknowledged fact among all the Saami (ten Saami languages) and many other Indigenous peoples that "only" changing the language of education (itself a basic requirements for revitalising, developing and maintaining Indigenous and minority languages) is not enough – the education has to reflect and develop the Indigenous culture, including its specific ways of teaching and learning. This is what the amendments will enable.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an Indigenous language college with



a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally (and, importantly, internationally) recognized position that it currently occupies.

Again, I urge you to include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to inspire Indigenous communities all over the world to move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,

Dr Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, email:SkutnabbKangas followed by [@gmail.com](mailto:SkutnabbKangas@gmail.com); home page: [www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org](http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org).

**RECENT BOOKS:** 1. Olthuis, Marja-Liisa, Kivelä, Suvi & Skutnabb-Kangas, Tove (2013). *Revitalising Indigenous languages. How to recreate a lost generation.* [www.casle.fi](http://www.casle.fi), <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?isb=9781847698872>. 2. Sheyholislami, Jaffer, Hassanpour, Amir & TSK (eds) (2012). *The Kurdish Linguistic Landscape: Vitality, Linguicide and Resistance*. Special issue nr 217, *International Journal of the Sociology of Language*. 3. TSK and Heugh, Kathleen (eds) (2012). *Multilingual Education and Sustainable Diversity Work: From Periphery to Center*. New York: Routledge. 4. Heugh, Kathleen and TSK (eds) (2010). *Multilingual Education Works: from the Periphery to the Centre*. [http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most\\_recent\\_books.html](http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most_recent_books.html). 5. TSK and Robert Dunbar (2010). *Indigenous Children's Education as Linguistic Genocide and a Crime Against Humanity? A Global View* (Gáldu, Resource Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, [www.galdu.org](http://www.galdu.org)). Read it at <http://www.e-pages.dk/grusweb/55/>. 6. Mohanty et al. (eds) (2009). *Multilingual Education for Social Justice: Globalising the Local*; short URL <http://uri.fi/EO/>; 7. TSK et al. (eds). (2009) *Social Justice through Multilingual Education*; <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?K=9781847691897> (for Turkish translation, 2013, see book nr 6 at [http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most\\_recent\\_books.html](http://www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org/en/most_recent_books.html)).



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 7:37 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** akiyuna@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ākeamakamae Kiyuna	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Pūnana Leo's amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**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.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [zaysylandahar@rocketmail.com](mailto:zaysylandahar@rocketmail.com)

First Name: Alana

Last Name: Glass

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753



Testimony of Wade M. 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:

- Why retard a child to wait til he/she is  
5 years old? A child @ 3 years old already  
sharp to know fundamentals.

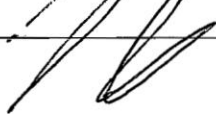
\*Remember, they will handle your retirement,  
choose wisely! :)

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

Sincerely,

Name: Wade M. Anderson

Ph or Email: myatgcompany@gmail.com

Signature: 

91-955 Puhikani St  
Ewa Beach HI 96706

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:snandmarycastle@hawaii.rr.com)

First Name: Alfred

Last Name: castle

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96813





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 7:09 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** akdmcnicoll@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alika K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill with Punana Leo amendments. Mahalo.

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

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**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.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [acthomas808@gmail.com](mailto:acthomas808@gmail.com)

First Name: Angela

Last Name: Thomas

City: Kamuela

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96743

## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:apeters@goodbeginnings.org)

First Name: Anna

Last Name: Peters

City: Lihue

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96766



## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:kinguhma@gmail.com)

First Name: Annie

Last Name: Okazaki

City: Aiea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96701



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 10:19 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** anuwahine@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/29/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anuheia Patoc	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I Support this bill ONLY with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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## FINTestimony

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**From:** Angeline Geldhof [angeline@hawaii Montessori.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 7:14 PM  
**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.

-----  
Form Data:

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

First Name: Angeline

Last Name: Geldhof

City: Waikoloa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96738



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 30, 2013 6:04 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** noelani@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/30/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
B. Noelani Iokepa-Guerrero	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support this bill with the Aha Pūnana Leo amendments.

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Representative Luke and members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I am testifying in support of the inclusion of the Punana Leo sponsored amendments to SB 1093 relating to school readiness and SB 1095 relating to early childhood education.

I am Waldo Te Whānau Pani Houia, Senior Lecturer at Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi, and know the Punana Leo and Hawaiian language college at UH-Hilo through following its successful Hawaiian language revitalisation programmes. During my time as a J1 Lecturer at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo I was privileged to observe and be part of the revitalisation programme of the Punana Leo and the College of Hawaiian at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

The amendments before you will be groundbreaking for Native American education in recognizing that a distinct pathway for teacher training, standards, and assessments are needed for early childhood education provided through our endangered Native American languages.

Furthermore, the inclusion of a "safe harbor" in the form of participation in the laboratory school program of the state Hawaiian language college is crucial to allow good faith participation in current best practices relative to Native American language early education, while the distinctive pathways, teacher training programs, standards, and assessments are being developed.

Hawaii is indeed fortunate that it has an indigenous language college with a laboratory school system that has built early education and K-12 education through Hawaiian to the nationally recognized position that it currently occupies.

Our program is concerned with indigenous language and culture. I have long been involved in the revitalisation of the Māori language as a teacher in total immersion, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Waikato in Hamilton, through to my current work. All my work focusses directly on teacher education for teacher educators in early childhood settings such as kōhanga reo, pre-service initial teacher educators and teacher professional development programmes. All these programmes directly target the revitalisation and maintenance of the Māori language, the indigenous language of Aotearoa-New Zealand.

Again, please include the Punana Leo amendments and continue to break

ground in Native American language medium education that can be used to help our communities move forward with similar legislation and programming.

Sincerely,  
Waldo Te Whānau Pani Houia  
Senior Lecture  
Te Whare Wānanga o Awanuiārangi  
Whakatāne.



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 31, 2013 11:26 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** alternatives.tain@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 3/31/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alasdair MacMhaoirn	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In view of the success of bilingual education throughout the world and in particular in Hawaii, please amend legislation to include and recognise the Hawaiian language

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## FINTestimony

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**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](mailto:april623@hawaii.edu)

First Name: April

Last Name: Okamoto

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816



## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 1:36 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** hiwa.n.nahe@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brandi Ferguson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with 'Aha Punana Leo's amendments.

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

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**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](mailto:moot2468@yahoo.com)

First Name: Arthur

Last Name: Bein

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753





## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 12:56 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** marinasvbc@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Briana Uiti	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I personally SUPPORT SB1093 & SB1095 for mandatory preschools. But I just ask that they INCLUDE PŪNANA LEO AMENDMENTS to offer equal privilege to our Hawaiian language preschools as well. This is 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.

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## **FINTestimony**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 8:31 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** Leilani\_kamalei@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

Submitted on: 4/1/2013

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cassie Boteilho	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill with Aha Pūnana Leo's amendments.

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

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**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.

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Form Data:

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

First Name: Cartoon

Last Name: Bunming

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797



## FINTestimony

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**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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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [cdaeuffer@lava.net](mailto:cdaeuffer@lava.net)

First Name: Carl

Last Name: Daeufer

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96821

## FINTestimony

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, April 01, 2013 11:55 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** kekama3@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Apr 2, 2013 14:00PM

### **SB1095**

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
Brandy Caceres	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I am a parent of three children who were all educated at the Pūnana Leo. Since Hawai i has two official languages, Hawaiian and English, the State of Hawai i must give both languages same priority. To do otherwise would be to privilege one language over the other. There are two complete and separate mediums of education in this State from preschool through doctoral programs, Hawaiian medium education and English medium education pathways. Please acknowledge our choice to educate our children in the language of our ancestors and the living language of this āina. I support Bill SB1095 with the amendments of the Aha Pūnana Leo.

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

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**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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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [ahanaïke@gmail.com](mailto:ahanaïke@gmail.com)

First Name: Allen

Last Name: Hanaïke

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

### RE: SB1095, SD2, HD1: Relating to Early Childhood Education

April 2, 2013, 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308

#### Testimony of Camille Kalama: *Kako`o me nā loli* (In SUPPORT with AMENDMENTS)

Aloha Chair, Representative Luke, Vice Chair Representative Nishimoto and members of the House Finance Committee, `o wau `o Camille Kalama, he makua mai ka Pūnana Leo o Wai`anae. I am Camille Kalama, a parent from the Pūnana Leo o Wai`anae. I am writing in SUPPORT of the early learning initiatives with the `Aha Pūnana Leo's AMENDMENTS to ensure that the measure supports early learning in *both* official State languages – English and Hawaiian.

Hawaiian language education at the pre-kindergarten stage is *critical* to the revitalization of Hawaiian language, which strengthens identities of the keiki and `ohana, benefitting them individually and our communities as a whole. I've seen with my own children how immersion in Hawaiian language and culture before the age of 5 years old instills a strong sense of identity, confidence, and ability. My daughter graduated from Pūnana Leo o Wai`anae last year and entered the immersion kindergarten program at Waiau Elementary in the fall of last year. Before she left Pūnana Leo and by the time she turned 5 years old, she could speak and read in `ōlelo Hawai`i. She is an enthusiastic and engaged learner today and I credit the Pūnana Leo program for her successful entry into kindergarten.

My second keiki is now at Pūnana Leo and will attend Waiau Elementary in the fall. As a late-born student, he would be part of these early education programs. With Junior Kindergarten eliminated, he would be one of the keiki to fall into these school preparedness programs. If that were the case, I would send him to Pūnana Leo for an additional year because of the unique learning environment they provide for our keiki and because I have seen the success of the program in preparing my own keiki for kindergarten and beyond.

The attached amendments will allow Pūnana Leo preschools, the ONLY statewide Hawaiian medium early learning program, to be part of the state system and to continue its work to revitalize the Hawaiian language over the past 30 years. Raising keiki who are secure and confident in their identity as kanaka maoli benefits all of us who live in Hawai`i and helps build a strong foundation for future generations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill. Once again, I strongly urge you to support this bill *with* the `Aha Pūnana Leo's proposed amendments for Early Childhood Education SB1095, SD2, HD1.

Aloha `āina,

Camille K. Kalama

## FINTestimony

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**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:

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First Name: Caitlin

Last Name: Hickle

City: Kihei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96753





## FINTestimony

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**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.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [bethpcdc@yahoo.com](mailto:bethpcdc@yahoo.com)

First Name: Beth

Last Name: Young

City: Haleiwa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96712





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 <sup>the</sup> ~~no~~ child left behind act, children who are better prepared (~~academically~~ <sup>socially</sup>) 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