

# HB2266 HD2

Measure Title: MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING.

Report Title: Executive Office on Early Learning; Early Learning Advisory Board; Appropriations (\$)

Description: Makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning for staffing and travel. (HB2266 HD2)

Companion: [SB2603](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, WAM

Introducer(s): OHNO, EVANS, ITO, JORDAN, KEOHOKALOLE, KOBAYASHI, C. LEE, LUKE, MIZUNO, MORIKAWA, OSHIRO, SAY, TAKUMI, TOKIOKA, YAMANE, DeCoite, Ing, Tsuji



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**Executive Office on Early Learning**  
1390 Miller Street, Room 303  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 11, 2016

**TO:** Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

**FROM:** Lauren Moriguchi, Director

**SUBJECT: HB 2266, HD 2 – MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING**  
**Hearing Date:** March 14, 2016  
**Time:** 1:25 p.m.  
**Location:** Conference Room 229

**Purpose of Bill:** Makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning for staffing and travel.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION:** The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) **strongly supports** HB 2266, HD 2 and would like to thank the introducers of the bill.

EOEL is committed to our mission which is to coordinate efforts to help ensure a solid foundation for Hawai'i's young children, prenatal to age five, by working with partners, families, and communities and connecting policies, programs, and funding in relation to health, safety, early childhood education, and school readiness and success.

Adequate staffing and funding is crucial in order to address the comprehensive responsibilities of the office, currently in statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
**STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**  
**(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)**

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>  
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

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FOR: HB2266, HD2 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING  
DATE: Monday, March 14, 2016  
TIME: 1:25 PM  
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Education  
ROOM: Conference Room 229  
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

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**Testimony in support of the intent of HB2266, HD2**

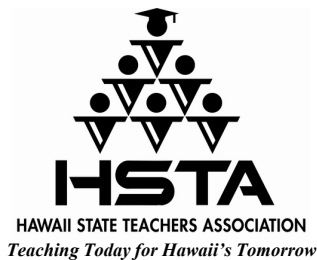
Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of the intent of House Bill 2266, HD2, "Making Appropriations for Early Learning."

As the Committee is aware, the Commission is the recipient of a U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Pre-School Development grant that is providing nearly \$15 million dollars over four years to provide high-quality pre-kindergarten programs for income-eligible four-year olds in 18 public charter schools.

The Commission is working closely with the Office of Early Learning to coordinate our collective efforts to bring a quality early education to more, and hopefully all, of our young children in Hawaii. With an eye toward the sustainability of the critical charter school initiative beyond the grant period, the Commission strongly supports efforts to continue building Hawaii's early learning infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: [www.hsta.org](http://www.hsta.org)

Corey Rosenlee  
President  
Justin Hughey  
Vice President  
Amy Perruso  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Wilbert Holck  
Executive Director

## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 2266, HD2 – MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING.

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016

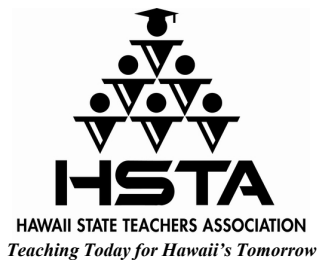
COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 2266, HD2**, making appropriations for early learning.

As noted by an MIT working group on the topic, investments in early childhood education pay dividends for the formal preparation of children as learners and future citizens, while also benefiting taxpayers and boosting economic vitality. 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. Preschool brings an approximately \$4.20 return on investment for every dollar spent on quality early childhood services, especially in terms of long-term life skills. At the national level, every dollar spent on early childhood education saves taxpayers up to \$13.00 in future costs, including lowered healthcare costs, reduced rates of educational remediation and prison incarceration, and higher productivity. Access to quality pre-kindergarten programs not only helps working parents fulfill their responsibilities, but is essential for building a 21<sup>st</sup> century labor force.

Early childhood education is especially important for at-risk students. According to the High Scopes/Perry Preschool longitudinal study, at-risk children with access to



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quality early learning programs were 20 percent more likely to graduate from high school, 14 percent more likely to be employed, and 24 percent less likely to have been incarcerated by age 40 than peers without such access. As the Department of education continues to streamline educational accountability, particularly through the possible 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.

Utilizing public school resources for the provision of early learning, as does the Executive Office on Early Learning through its public preschool program, will place our children's futures in the hands of the state's most qualified education professionals, namely our certificated and licensed public school teachers. Additionally, public early learning programs will not set a nefarious precedent for the future adoption of school voucher programs at the elementary and secondary school level. Finally, this proposal does not violate the U.S. Constitution's and Hawaii State Constitution's Establishment Clauses, which bar preferential governmental treatment for religious institutions, ensuring that the state will not become ensnared in costly litigation because of a misappropriation of funds to a program that promotes a specific religious viewpoint. Public early learning will, instead, include research-based, developmentally appropriate, secular practices that are associated with better educational outcomes for children. While we support staffing and travel that advances our state's early learning initiatives, **we urge you to appropriate up to \$125 million for our state's public preschool program during the budget process**, guaranteeing statewide access to as many children as possible.

Because early childhood education is beneficial to lifetime learning, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



## KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Education

Time: 1:25 p.m.

Date: March 14, 2016

Where: State Capitol Room 229

### TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk  
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of the Committee

RE: **HB 2266 HD2 Relating to Early Learning Appropriations**

E ka Luna Ho'omalua Kidani, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalua Harimoto a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike Ho'ona'auao o ka 'Aha Kenekoa, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Group of Kamehameha Schools. House Bill 2266 HD2 relating to early learning makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning for staffing and travel.

We are writing to **support** this measure.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian learners. We serve K-12 students through campus programs on O'ahu, Hawai'i and Maui, and three-and-four-year-olds at preschool sites statewide. In 2004, our Early Childhood Education division also began serving keiki from birth to three years old, as part of its Hi'ilani Early Childhood Collaborative program. We also provide scholarships to keiki attending other preschools and provide funding for child-family interaction programs that have filled a great need in rural communities.

Since its inception more than 20 years ago, the Kamehameha Schools Early Childhood Education Division has provided more than 11,000 keiki with their first preschool experience. Early childhood education and parental support is the cornerstone of our Education Strategic Plan adopted in 2005, which seeks to foster long-term intergenerational change in the way Native Hawaiian families approach learning. Research demonstrates that early education is a key factor in lifelong success for all children, and we strongly urge the legislature to promote, enhance and support the efforts of the State of Hawai'i to appropriately address the needs of Hawai'i's pre-kindergarten children.

We believe that this measure is necessary in support of early learning in the state of Hawai'i. We are committed to continuing to engage in dialog around early learning policies and proposals and strive to contribute in a positive and meaningful way. 'A'ohē hana nui ke alu 'ia! No task is too large when we all work together! **Please advance this measure.** Mahalo nui.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair

March 14, 2016

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support HB2266 HD2, which makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning for staffing and travel.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition strongly believes in investing in early education and supported the establishment of the Public Preschool Program in the last legislative session. Presently, the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) Director is the only staff in the program and managing the program without support staff is extremely difficult. Therefore, we support the appropriation for additional staff. Additionally, we also believe that allocating travel for the Early Learning Advisory Board is appropriate as we are a statewide system that requires statewide communication. We hope to see the Public Preschool Program establish a strong foundation and grow in a manageable way. Support from the legislature for EOEL would give the office tools to achieve this.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21  
After-School All-Stars Hawaii  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
\*Castle Complex Community Council  
\*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS  
Center for Civic Education  
Coalition for Children with Special Needs  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawaii  
\*Hawaii Children's Action Network  
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation  
\*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Charter School Network  
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
\*Hawaii State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Hawai'i P-20  
Hawai'i 3Rs  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation  
Learning First  
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Our Public School  
\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program  
Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
YMCA of Honolulu  
*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*





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Tam  
Wendy Correa

##### Address

850 Richards Street  
Suite 201  
Honolulu, HI  
96813

P: (808) 531-5502

March 13, 2016

To: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director  
Hawaii Children's Action Network

Re: **HB 2266, HD2 Making Appropriations for Early Learning – Support  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229, March 14, 2016, 1:25 PM**

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**On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), formerly Good  
Beginnings Alliance, we are writing in strong support of HB 2266, HD2  
Making Appropriations for Early Learning.**

HCAN is committed to improving lives and being a strong voice advocating for Hawai'i's children. Last fall, HCAN convened input in person and online from more than 50 organizations and individuals that came forward to support or express interest for a number of issues affecting children and families in our state that resulted in the compilation of 2016 Hawai'i Children's Policy Agenda, which can be accessed at <http://www.hawaiican.org/2016policyagenda>.

This bill seeks to restore funds for general operation costs for the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the following purposes:

- (1) Travel for the Early Learning Advisory Board;
- (2) Secretary IV position for the EOEL; and
- (3) Research statistician VI position for the EOEL.

Hawaii was one of a handful of states that decreased their pre-k funding last year while overall other states' funding for pre-k programs increased by nearly

\$767 million, or 12 percent over FY2015-15. This supplemental funding for EOEL is needed to restore and maintain the minimum required operations to carry out its duties and functions; however, HCAN also supports a planned expansion of public pre-k programs in Hawaii's DOE and public charter schools so eligible children have access to programs that help them prepare for and have a better shot at succeeding in school.

**For these reasons, HCAN respectfully requests that members of the Senate Committee on Education pass HB 2266, HD2, to appropriate and restore operational funding for EOEL in the FY 2016-17 budget.**



**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education  
Monday, March 14, 2016 at 1:25 P.M.  
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

**RE: HOUSE BILL 2266 HD 2 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY  
LEARNING**

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2266 HD 2, which makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning for staffing, travel, and attendance at relevant conferences, as applicable.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 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 strongly believes that focusing on early childhood is critical because brain development takes place by age five. We believe it is 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.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [EDU Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [annsfreed@gmail.com](mailto:annsfreed@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2266 on Mar 14, 2016 13:25PM  
**Date:** Thursday, March 10, 2016 2:43:46 PM

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**HB2266**

Submitted on: 3/10/2016

Testimony for EDU on Mar 14, 2016 13:25PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann S Freed	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am in strong support of this measure that will help to insure our future through an educated electorate. Early education or lack thereof sets outcomes for success in life. Mahalo, Ann S. Freed, resident, Mililani

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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Written Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Education  
Monday, March 14, 2016, 1:25 p.m. Room 229  
by

Donald B. Young  
Personal Testimony in Support

HB 2266 HD2 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Committee on Education

My name is Donald Young. I am the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and co-chair the legislatively established Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC).

I support HB 2266 HD2. In order to address the needs in our community for quality early learning programs we must have the support at the top level of administration to ensure our commitments are indeed a priority. HB 2266 HD2 provides that support through appropriation.

In 2013, the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee prepared a position statement relevant to HB 2266 HD2. The TECC members, representing the education organizations that prepare teachers in the state, stated in part,

*It is time for the State of Hawai'i to commit funding for early childhood education. Hawai'i is one of only 11 states without state-funded preschool. Yet the research is clear that laying a strong foundation for our youth through high quality preschool programs will result in productive and capable citizens. A recent study in Hawai'i found that every \$1 invested in early education returns \$4.20 in future social program savings. We have spent years studying the issues. We know what the right thing to do is. Now is the time to do it.*

While it has taken longer than anticipated to actualize public support for early learning programs, I continue to believe it is the right thing to do and urge you to pass HB 2266 HD2 along with its appropriation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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About the TECC

The Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) is a statewide advisory committee created in HRS 304A-1202. Its membership consists of representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare teachers for the State's schools, the Hawai'i Department of Education, and the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board. The TECC identifies, studies, acts, and makes recommendations on matters of education of common interest to the Hawai'i State Department of Education.