



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

February 5, 2016

TO: Roy Takumi, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director

SUBJECT: HB 2266 – MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING
Hearing Date: Monday, February 8, 2016
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Location: Conference Room 309

Purpose of Bill: Makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning and Early Learning Advisory Board for staffing, travel, and attendance at relevant conferences, as applicable.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) strongly supports HB 2266 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.

While a data analyst position is currently in the executive budget, funding for the secretary position and funds for travel are not. Both positions are crucial as a secretary is required to manage the daily operations of the office and the data analyst would provide essential information to inform future initiatives to expand the early learning system for all children in Hawai'i.

EOEL would like to clarify that the appropriation for travel is solely for the purpose of allowing board members to attend meetings and respectfully requests that the language in this measure (p.1, line 5) be revised to read as follows: "\$28,800 for travel for the early learning advisory board."

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

FOR: HB2266 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING
DATE: Monday, February 8, 2016
TIME: 2:00 PM
COMMITTEE(S): House Committee on Education
ROOM: Conference Room 309
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Testimony in support of the intent of HB2266

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, 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, "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.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Education
Monday, February 8, 2016 at 2:00 P.M.
Conference Room 309, State Capitol**

RE: HOUSE BILL 2266 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2266, which makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning and Early Learning Advisory Board 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.

Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair
Members of the House Education Committee

**Re: HB 2266, Relating to Making Appropriates for Early Learning – Support
Hearing February 08, 2016 at 2:00 PM, Conference Room 309**

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno and Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Robert G. Peters and I currently serve as the chair of the State Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB) composed of 19 public and private members representing state departments, the early learning community, philanthropy, and the State university system. The ELAB was established to advise the Executive Office on Early Learning and speaks as an independent voice on issues related to child development as they relate to health, safety and learning for children from 0 – 5.

The ELAB supports HB 2266 and sees the appropriations as critical to the work of the Executive Office on Early Learning if it is to fulfill its responsibilities to our *keiki*. The office is currently under-staffed with only two members and is in great need of clerical support as well as a data processing systems analyst, the former to address the day-to-day needs of the office while the latter position will enable the EOEL to gather/analyze the critical data needed to ascertain issues around pre-K needs, public capacity to meet them and to plan for a future that increases access and equity. This data will also be essential when seeking federal assistance and local philanthropic support.

ELAB would suggest changing the language in the bill to reflect that the \$28,800 amount is strictly for travel expenses and eliminate the reference to “conferences.” Travel expenses are for ELAB members from neighbor Islands to be able to attend both monthly board meetings and participate on subcommittees as needed to ensure all voices are heard.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I hope you will see the value in moving this legislation forward.

Robert G. Peters, EdD
Early Learning Advisory Board, Chair



February 8, 2016

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To: Representative Roy Takumi, Chair
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair
House Committee on Education

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

Re: **HB 2266 Making Appropriations for Early Learning – Support
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309, February 8, 2016 – 2 P.M.**

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), formerly Good Beginnings Alliance, we are writing in strong support of HB 2266, 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 appropriate funds for general operation costs for the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the following purposes:

- (1) \$28,800 for travel and attendance at relevant conferences for the Early Learning Advisory Board;
 - (2) \$39,492 for the establishment of a secretary IV position for the EOEL;
- and

(3) \$59,736 for the establishment of a data processing systems analyst VI position for the EOEL.

Supplemental funding is needed to restore and maintain the minimum required operations for EOEL to carry out its duties and functions.

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



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

House Committee on Education

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Date: February 8, 2016

Where: State Capitol Room 309

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno and Members of the Committee

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

E ka Luna Ho'omalua Takumi, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalua Ohno a me nā Lālā o nā Kōmike Ho'ona'auao o ka Hale o nā Lunamaka'āinana, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Community Education Division of Kamehameha Schools. House Bill 2266 relating to early learning makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning and Early Learning Advisory Board for staffing, travel, and attendance at relevant conferences, as applicable. 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 an important step in supporting 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.

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education
Monday, February 8, 2016, 2:00 p.m. Room 309
by

Donald B. Young
Personal Testimony in Support

HB 2266 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING

Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, 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. My testimony is similar to that submitted to you in support of HB 1715 supporting public support for early learning. 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 provides through appropriation that support.

In 2013, the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee prepared a position statement relevant to HB 1715. 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 along with its appropriation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

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.

HB2266

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for EDN on Feb 8, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	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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Jenna Takenouchi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 9:42 AM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: burgharc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2266 on Feb 8, 2016 14:00PM

HB2266

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for EDN on Feb 8, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Where will this commission be traveling? If it is throughout our islands, GREAT. If it is to places off our islands then I believe serious thought should be given. WE have so many experts already here who can lead Hawai'i learning. Perhaps a call out to those people to assist? I think this commission can help with many things but if it's going to just push down agendas that don't match our islands then, no money needed.

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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