

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/04/2015
Time: 09:30 AM
Location: 325
Committee: House Ocean
Marine Resources
& Hawaiian Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0874 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to develop and implement annual assessments in the Hawaiian language that are not translations for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni students.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) fully appreciates the intent and substantive content of HB 0874. Board of Education Policy #2105, Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, which directs the department to develop assessments in the Hawaiian language, is currently being implemented.

This past June, the Department entered into a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the University of Hawaii to develop a Hawaiian language version of the state assessment of the Hawaii Common Core Standards. This assessment is to be administered to grade 3 and 4 students enrolled in a Hawaiian language immersion program in the spring of 2015.

The Department also notes that expansion of the development of assessments in the Hawaiian language will require additional funding. The Department would like the opportunity to evaluate the UH - MOA effort for developing Hawaiian language assessments for the 3rd and 4th grade students at the end of the 2014-15 school year and is willing to submit a report on the outcome to the 29th legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 0874.



HB874

RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

February 4, 2015

9:30 a.m.

Room 325

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** HB874. This bill would provide our nationally-recognized Hawaiian language immersion schools and their students with a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in national and state educational assessment programs, by allowing students taught in the Hawaiian language to take educational assessments that are developed originally in Hawaiian, their primary language of instruction.

HB874 addresses a long-standing problem with the state's standardized assessment program under the federal No Child Left Behind Act. During school years 2011-2012 through 2013-2014, Hawaiian language immersion program (Ka Papahana Kaiapuni or Kaiapuni) students have been offered an English-to-Hawaiian translated version of the statewide assessments for grades 3 and 4, where Hawaiian is the sole language of instruction. These translated assessments are replete with problems, including cultural biases, translation inaccuracies, grammatical errors, vocabulary errors, and inconsistent terminology. Kaiapuni students in grades in which the English language is formally taught are offered only the standard English-language assessments, notwithstanding the fact that Hawaiian is still the primary language of instruction. Frustration with such nonsensical or linguistically inappropriate assessments has now led to many Kaiapuni parents "opting out" their children from taking the statewide assessments. Without a solution, this problem threatens to substantially inhibit the state's and Hawaiian community's efforts to revitalize 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, one of the state's official languages, and reduce available funding for both Kaiapuni schools as well as Department of Education programs generally.

HB874 addresses the linguistically and culturally inappropriate assessment practices by requiring the Department of Education (DOE) to partner with the Hawaiian language community and develop annual assessments originally in the Hawaiian language for language arts, mathematics, and science, in accordance with federal accountability assessment requirements, for students of the Kaiapuni program. The implementation of such assessments will allow for a more fair and reasonable assessment process and a more accurate reflection of Kaiapuni students' academic achievement. The anticipated increase in assessment participation and reduction in how many students "opt out" from the assessment process may also prevent irreparable negative impacts to the the DOE, Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, Kaiapuni students, and ultimately, the revitalization of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB874. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 12:12 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: auliig@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aulii Dudoit	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB874 which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 1:07 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: bguerr4@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benjamin Guerrero	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT [Insert HB874 or HB208] which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2015 6:45 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: gramyg@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

HB874

Submitted on: 1/31/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gini Kapali	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 2:25 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: peepuhala@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Iolani Kuoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Hawaiian Language Immersion educator, I strongly SUPPORT HB874 which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 10:37 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ikaauwai@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB874 which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo for your support!

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 12:23 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: lalaauiwohi@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kainea Aiwohi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT HB874 which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. My daughter is a Hawaiian language immersion student at Kula Kaiapuni ma Pa'ia and deserves an assessment that accurately reflects her knowledge base. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo for your support!

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 3:29 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: wctanaka@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: There is no precise word for 'aina, or kuleana, or aloha, in the English language. Perpetuating 'Olelo Hawai'i is thus key to perpetuating the understood values and ideas unique to our islands. Please help perpetuate a foundation of Hawai'i's culture, strength and sense of community by giving our Hawaiian language immersion program schools and students a fair shake at participating in the state educational assessment program.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 02, 2015 11:25 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: daliapighunter@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

HB874

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Haleola Kapuni-Lopez	O Hina I Ka Malama.	Support	No

Comments:

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Aloha, my name is cody Nip and I attend o hina I ka malama a Hawaiian emersion program at Molokai high school I strongly **SUPPORT HB874** which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Mahalo for your support!

I strongly **SUPPORT HB874** which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. The Hawaiian language is one of two official languages of the State of Hawai'i, as such, it is important for the mother tongue of these islands to have parity with the English language. Hawaiian language immersion students should have an assessment that accurately evaluates their knowledge base that is grounded in the medium of their education. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

J. Ekela Kaniaupio-Crozier

Aloha my name is Hiilani Kanuha and I go to Ke Kula Kaiapuni O O Hina I Ka Malama. It is a Hawaiian immersion program, located at Molokai High School on Molokai. I strongly SUPPORT House bill HB 874 which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I strongly support this bill because I want to be assessed in what I learn in school. We need Hawaiian assessments. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

Mahalo.

Aloha my name is Kamalani Puailihau, I attend 'O Hina I Ka Malama. 'O Hina I Ka Malama is a Hawaiian Language Immersion Program at Molokai High School. I strongly **SUPPORT HB874** because we are immersion students and we need Hawaiian assessments in school. This bill would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, we Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Mahalo for your support!

Aloha my name Uilani Smith and I am currently a student at O Hina I Ka Malama. I strongly support HB874 because I am a student of a Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, it would be highly appreciated that we get Hawaiian based assessments. We believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Mahalo for your support!

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 1:20 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: andiandlen@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andi Pawasarat-Losalio	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 2:22 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: Kanoe@ahapunanaleo.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoe Kanakaole	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I, Kanoe Kanaka'ole, strongly SUPPORT HB874 which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion and Hawaiian Medium Education students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion and Hawaiian Medium Education students and families who have these pathways of education over mainstream schooling deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in the language of instruction and its unique pedagogy. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo for your support!

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Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

LATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

HOUSE BILL 874 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

Wed.; Feb.04, 2015; Room 325

Aloha Chairman Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, founded with a single club in 1918 by Prince Kuhio, now consists of sixty- seven component clubs throughout Hawaii and sixteen states on the continent.

I am Annelle Amaral speaking in support of this bill.

From the beginning our clubs have supported, lobbied and provided financial assistance for our young Hawaiian scholars to be educated. Happily, many of them have turned to the mother tongue of their kupuna and are today teaching Hawaiian language to the next generation. The Hawaiian language has made a remarkable recovery and the Civic Clubs have been consistent in support of the revival. Many of our present kupuna, unable to learn from their kupuna who were punished for speaking Hawaiian, now turn to their grand-children for help in translations.

We support HB874 as yet another step toward completing the cycle of cultural, historic and language retrieval for the native people. We listen to our grandchildren in awe as they speak to one another in the language that we were denied. It is cause for celebration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the view of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

Contact: Jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:32 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kaohanapearce@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

LATE

HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
casie pearce	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:50 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: chanel4_u@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

LATE

HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chanel L Sebala-Bumanglag	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Aloha, I am in support of Bill 874. I think it is necessary in order to give our a fair analysis of what they have learned throughout the school year or accumulated years in their mother tongue. After all, we should not have to go back into history again as to why we have Hawaiian immersion in the first place today. And so it should be very clear that our children not be penalized in any way. It shows the lack of honor in this system. You think after over 25 years of the existence of Immersion schools all those in charge of education and as educators themselves would have gotten it by now. Lets move forward from the constant failing system to progress. Mahalo, Chanel

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 8:17 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

LATE

HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 10:53 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: hiram.leong@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

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HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
hiram leong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:29 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: natasha@kapali.net
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

LATE

HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
natasha kapali	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 6:21 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: suziekl@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM*

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HB874

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Suzie leong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 8:54 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: bknunies@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

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HB874

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bernard Nunies	Individual	Support	No

Comments: WE are in need of an accurate translation for the students. I am in support of this bill.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 04, 2015 10:49 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kiele.aloha@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB874 on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

HB874

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for OMH on Feb 4, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keiko Gonzalez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaiian language is an official language of this state. As such, it should be made available across state agencies and especially whenever requested by the public. But most especially, when the public is requesting an assessment of Hawaiian language students in Hawaiian language medium schools, it really does make sense for the assessments to be available in the Hawaiian language. Therefore, I strongly SUPPORT this bill which would require the Department of Education to collaborate with the Hawaiian language community to develop accurate assessment tests for our Hawaiian language immersion students. I believe that the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language holds significant importance to the identity of our state and should be valued. As such, Hawaiian language immersion students and families who have chosen immersion education over traditional school deserve an assessment that accurately reflects their knowledge base rooted in their cultural practices. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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