

Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Date of Hearing: 3-18-2015
Time: 10:00am
Location: Conference Room 325

Testimony of Dr. Kauanoë Kamanā, Director of the Laboratory School Program of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB778, SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION: Support Intent and Offer Amendments To Track Back To SB778, SD 1.

Aloha Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs.

My name is Dr. Kauanoë Kamanā, Director of the Laboratory School Program of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. The Laboratory School Program of the College of Hawaiian Language supports the intent of SB778, SD2 and offer amendments.

Our families in Hawaiian medium education very much appreciate that this bill is intended to provide fair, reliable and valid assessments in Hawaiian, an official language of Hawai'i and the language of instruction for students in ka papahana kaiapuni.

We stand strong on the **SB778, Senate Draft 1** which requires the Department of Education to develop and implement the annual assessments in the Hawaiian language and requires the Department of Education with the assistance of specified entities to establish procedures for the development of annual assessments in the Hawaiian language.

Your committee passed HB 874, HD1 a bill similar to SB778, SD1 and we would like to see the **SB778, SD1 reinstated** with the act to take effect on July 1, 2015.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony for your consideration.

Mahalo nui.



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

Date: 03/18/2015

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 325

Committee: House Ocean, Marine
Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0778, SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires and appropriates funds for the department of education to develop an assessment of established statewide performance standards for students in the kaiapuni program. Requires reports to the legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

Department's Position:

While the Department of Education is supportive of the intent of this measure, the Department respectfully suggests that the mandates contained in SB778 are premature at this time.

Board Policy 2105 directs the Department to develop and administer "appropriate formative and summative assessment tools." The Department is also required to develop curriculum and standards "to prepare students for college, career and contributors to community with the assistance of the appropriate stakeholders including the 'Aha Kauleo, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, University of Hawai'i system of colleges, 'Aha Punana Leo, the Charter School Commission and any other stakeholders selected by the Department. The development of the Kaiapuni curriculum, content, instruction and assessment should be informed and researched-based utilizing qualitative and quantitative data."

This past June, the Department entered a 3-year memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the University of Hawaii stating that both parties agree to:

- Create and support statewide assessments in the Hawaiian language for use within the Department of Education for grades 3 and 4 (language arts, mathematics and grade 4 science);
- Field test the assessments in Hawaiian language immersion schools;

- Provide documentation regarding the alignment of the assessments with applicable State standards;
- Provide documentation regarding validity and reliability of the assessments.

The MOA is being implemented on schedule and field tests for Hawaiian Language Arts and math are set to be administered to 3rd and 4th grade Kaiapuni students in May 2015. While this process is extremely rewarding, innovative, and exciting, it also faces immense challenges and uncertainties. Unlike English assessments, Hawaiian assessments cannot be 'taken off the shelf'. These are being developed by a small group of highly specialized professionals in concert with Kaiapuni teachers under a very tight deadline. This process requires diligence, commitment, passion, and time. The Department would like the opportunity to evaluate progress of the work and administration of field tests at the end of the 2014-15 school year and determine the most appropriate and effective way to proceed.

Additionally, federal accountability as written in ESEA Section 1111 (b)(3)(C)(1) requires that assessments shall "be the same academic assessments used to measure the achievement of all children." The Department submitted a double testing waiver to the U.S. Department of Education and was granted a one year waiver in February 2015 allowing students participating in the Hawaiian language field test to forego the statewide assessment, Smarter Balanced. The Department is requesting continued support from stakeholders in addressing challenges presented in ESEA to administering Hawaiian language assessments. SB778, SD1 requires that the Hawaiian language assessment "be compliant with applicable federal accountability assessment requirements," yet federal accountability requires that the state administer one test and that that test be in English. The Department would request more time to work with stakeholders to address these challenges.

SB778 mandates the department to develop assessments in Hawaiian for language arts, mathematics, and science. Though the department maintains that the mandates in SB778 are premature, the Department requests the amount of \$7.5 million for the development, implementation and maintenance costs associated with the assessments. The department requests that this not replace or adversely impact the priorities outlined in our Executive Budget.

Substantial work has been accomplished in the area of Hawaiian educational assessments, but certainly much more work remains ahead. While the Department is committed to continuing the work with our stakeholder partners, the Department respectfully suggests that the department is not prepared to implement the mandates of SB778 at this time.



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Niuhahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair

Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Date of Hearing: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

Time: 10:00am

Location: Conference Room 325

*Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Non-Profit Educational Organization
Dedicated to the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language*

SB778, SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION - Support WITH AMENDMENTS

Aloha Legislators:

My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo. The 'Aha Pūnana

Leo's position on SB778, SD2 is **Support WITH AMENDMENTS.**

Please amend SB778, SD2 to track the language in SB778, SD1.

We appreciate that the language in SB778, SD1 ensures fair, reliable and valid assessments in the language of instruction for ka papahana kaiapuni students without further delay. However, SB778, SD2 now before us severely compromises assessment provisions for ka papahana kaiapuni students.

The assignment of the assessment of students being educated through Hawaiian to 302H rather than 302A poses the possibility that the HIDOE will continue a practice of stating that some or all Hawaiian immersion programs are not part of 302H. 302A covers all schools in the HIDOE and therefore is the appropriate place to assure that the HIDOE does not continue its practice of discriminating against children educated through Hawaiian, be the program described as Hawaiian language immersion, Hawaiian language bilingual, or Hawaiian language medium education.

Please amend SB778, SD2 to its former version of SB778, SD1.

Mahalo,

M. 'Ekekela Aiona

Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo

96 Pu'uhonu Place

Hilo, HI 96720

(808) 935-4304



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

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

COMMITTEE ON OCEAN MARINE RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

SB778SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Wednesday, 3/18/15; 10:00 am; Room 325

Aloha Chairman Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the House Committee on Ocean Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs. The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC) supports this bill that will bring the Hawaiian language a step further into the realm of keeping the native language of these islands alive and useful.

For many years Hawaiian Civic Clubs have encouraged and supported efforts to reestablish the Hawaiian language. As our kupuna passed on and olelo Hawaii was seldom heard in our meetings, it has been wonderful and gratifying to have the younger generation come to meetings and conventions fluent and speaking olelo Hawaii. Many in the “gap” group who didn’t learn from their kupuna and had no opportunity to learn Hawaiian in school now turn to their children and grandchildren for help with the language. It is of mutual benefit to both generations and serves to provide solid generational connections.

The trick here is for the DOE and curriculum to comply with English language laws without compromising the progress made in Hawaiian language but providing fair and equitable opportunities for students to become bi-lingual while meeting the full range of academic requirements.

The AHCC supports this bill and urges its passage. Mahalo.

Contact: Jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:12 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ikepono@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB778

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	Ewa Puuloa Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	King Kamehameha HCC	Support	No

Comments:

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: thiswann@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Presley Wann	Hui Maka'ainana O Makana	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: pohaimm@gmail.com
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SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C.R.P. Montague-Mullins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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I strongly **SUPPORT SB778** 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.

Holly K. Coleman

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:11 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ikepono@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB778

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
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SB778

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: robertl@oha.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB778

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:00 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kealohafox@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB778

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leanne Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB778 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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SB778

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LORNA POE	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB778 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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To: omhtestimony
Cc: igoraaina@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Gora-Aina	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB778 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. As one Hawaii's state language, 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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omhtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Cc: ds.pups08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dawn Tanimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: shane.nelsen@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Nelsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

LATE

Date: 03/18/2015

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 325

Committee: House Ocean, Marine
Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0778, SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires and appropriates funds for the department of education to develop an assessment of established statewide performance standards for students in the kaiapuni program. Requires reports to the legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

Department's Position:

While the Department of Education is supportive of the intent of this measure, the Department respectfully suggests that the mandates contained in SB778 are premature at this time.

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This past June, the Department entered a 3-year memorandum of agreement (MOA) with the University of Hawaii stating that both parties agree to:

- Create and support statewide assessments in the Hawaiian language for use within the Department of Education for grades 3 and 4 (language arts, mathematics and grade 4 science);
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The MOA is being implemented on schedule and field tests for Hawaiian Language Arts and math are set to be administered to 3rd and 4th grade Kaiapuni students in May 2015. While this process is extremely rewarding, innovative, and exciting, it also faces immense challenges and uncertainties. Unlike English assessments, Hawaiian assessments cannot be 'taken off the shelf'. These are being developed by a small group of highly specialized professionals in concert with Kaiapuni teachers under a very tight deadline. This process requires diligence, commitment, passion, and time. The Department would like the opportunity to evaluate progress of the work and administration of field tests at the end of the 2014-15 school year and determine the most appropriate and effective way to proceed.

Additionally, federal accountability as written in ESEA Section 1111 (b)(3)(C)(1) requires that assessments shall "be the same academic assessments used to measure the achievement of all children." The Department submitted a double testing waiver to the U.S. Department of Education and was granted a one year waiver in February 2015 allowing students participating in the Hawaiian language field test to forego the statewide assessment, Smarter Balanced. The Department is requesting continued support from stakeholders in addressing challenges presented in ESEA to administering Hawaiian language assessments. SB778, SD1 requires that the Hawaiian language assessment "be compliant with applicable federal accountability assessment requirements," yet federal accountability requires that the state administer one test and that that test be in English. The Department would request more time to work with stakeholders to address these challenges.

SB778 mandates the department to develop assessments in Hawaiian for language arts, mathematics, and science. Though the department maintains that the mandates in SB778 are premature, the Department requests the amount of \$7.5 million for the development, implementation and maintenance costs associated with the assessments. The department requests that this not replace or adversely impact the priorities outlined in our Executive Budget.

Substantial work has been accomplished in the area of Hawaiian educational assessments, but certainly much more work remains ahead. While the Department is committed to continuing the work with our stakeholder partners, the Department respectfully suggests that the department is not prepared to implement the mandates of SB778 at this time.



LATE

**SB778 SD2
RELATING TO EDUCATION**

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

March 18, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB778 SD2. 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.

SB778 SD2 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 (DOE) programs generally.

SB778 SD2 addresses such linguistically and culturally inappropriate assessment practices by requiring the 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 Kaiapuni program students. Implementing 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 DOE, Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, Kaiapuni students, and ultimately, the revitalization of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.

OHA continues to work with the DOE and stakeholders to develop language that achieves our mutual goals. We ask the Committee to PASS SB778 SD2 to keep a vehicle alive as these discussions continue. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:41 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mkhan@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

Categories: Late

LATE

SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Kalihi Palama HCC	Support	No

Comments: The Kalihi Palama HCC continues to support this measure and urges your passage.
Leimomi Khan, president

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Cc: amybrinker@mac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

Categories: Late

LATE

SB778

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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omhtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 11:25 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: kaiulani@kalo.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB778 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

LATE

SB778

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ka'iulani Pahi'o	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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