
HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING THE 2023 MILKEN EDUCATOR AWARDEE AND 2022 TEACHER OF PROMISE AWARD FINALISTS FOR THE HILO-WAIĀKEA, KA'U-KEA'AU-PĀHOA, 'AIEA-MOANALUA-RADFORD, AND PEARL CITY-WAIPAHU COMPLEXES.

1 WHEREAS, ESTHER KWON recently received the 2023 Milken
2 Educator Award; and

3
4 WHEREAS, throughout her childhood, ESTHER KWON attended ten
5 schools in three countries; she went on to earn a Bachelor of
6 Arts in political science from the University of Virginia and a
7 Master of Arts in elementary education from Johns Hopkins
8 University before moving to Hawai'i in 2012 as a Teach for
9 America Corps member; and

10
11 WHEREAS, ESTHER KWON is the Assistant Principal at Daniel
12 K. Inouye Elementary School, where she has dedicated ten years
13 to the Wahiawa community as a teacher and tutor; she has served
14 on the School Community Council as a Student Council Advisor and
15 as a leader of the Pineapple Academy's distance learning
16 program, which oversees 12 elementary schools in the Leilehua-
17 Mililani-Waiialua Complex Area; and

18
19 WHEREAS, an innovative leader, passionate educator, and
20 Hawai'i State Teacher Fellow, ESTHER KWON has been committed to
21 the professional mentorship and development of fellow teachers
22 and the success of their students; and

23
24 WHEREAS, ESTHER KWON understands firsthand the importance
25 of student belonging and social-emotional well-being, as Daniel
26 K. Inouye Elementary School serves a student population almost
27 entirely composed of military dependents; she is dedicated to



1 helping students overcome challenges associated with family
2 relocations due to military service and has proven herself to be
3 a valued asset to the Daniel K. Inouye Elementary School
4 community; and

5
6 WHEREAS, HIPPOLYTE ASSI was recently named the Hilo-Waiākea
7 Complex finalist for the 2022 Teacher of Promise Award from the
8 Milken Educators of Hawai'i; and

9
10 WHEREAS, HIPPOLYTE ASSI holds a Doctor of Pharmacy degree
11 and an extensive background in the healthcare industry; and

12
13 WHEREAS, prior to his noble pursuit of becoming a health
14 services teacher at Hilo High School, HIPPOLYTE ASSI worked at
15 Streetwater Health Education, a post-secondary vocational school
16 for nursing and pharmacy technician students; and

17
18 WHEREAS, with his knowledge and expertise, HIPPOLYTE ASSI
19 has enriched his students' educational experience with hands-on
20 career and technical education training in the field of health
21 services, particularly nursing and clinical care; and

22
23 WHEREAS, HIPPOLYTE ASSI's remarkable example of teamwork,
24 applying the same principles of collaboration and communication
25 within the walls of a hospital to those in a classroom, has had
26 a profound impact on his pupils; and

27
28 WHEREAS, distinguished by his extraordinary career and
29 well-deserved merits, HIPPOLYTE ASSI is held in high regard by
30 his school community as an exceptional asset; and

31
32 WHEREAS, ANNIE HENBEST was recently named the Ka'u-Kea'au-
33 Pāhoa Complex finalist for the 2022 Teacher of Promise Award
34 from the Milken Educators of Hawai'i; and

35
36 WHEREAS, ANNIE HENBEST completed a Bachelor of Arts degree
37 in History and Political Science and Elementary Education degree
38 from Idaho State University before continuing her studies at
39 Grand Canyon University and Western Governors University, where
40 she graduated with a Master of Education degree in Curriculum



1 and Instruction as well as a Master of Education degree in
2 Educational Administration; and

3
4 WHEREAS, ANNIE HENBEST has proudly served young learners as
5 an educator for ten years, initially as a teacher leader and
6 teacher in Idaho and later in 2019, as a literacy and technology
7 coach in the State of Hawai'i at Pāhoa High and Intermediate
8 School; and

9
10 WHEREAS, ANNIE HENBEST uses her role as Vice Principal of
11 Pāhoa High and Intermediate School to provide valuable resources
12 to teachers and support their mission to successfully engage
13 with a variety of learning styles; and

14
15 WHEREAS, ANNIE HENBEST treasures fostering meaningful
16 relationships with students and colleagues, which is reflected
17 in her dedicated efforts to empower her community by encouraging
18 her pupils and fellow educators to be the best versions of
19 themselves; and

20
21 WHEREAS, JESSICA LOBO ATNIP was recently named the 'Aiea-
22 Moanalua-Radford Complex finalist for the 2022 Teacher of
23 Promise Award from the Milken Educators of Hawai'i; and

24
25 WHEREAS, JESSICA LOBO ATNIP has served 'Aiea Intermediate
26 School for three years, starting as an English teacher for
27 grades 7 and 8 and is currently the grade 8 English
28 Language/English Language Arts teacher and coordinator as a part
29 of 'Aiea's newly established English Language department; and

30
31 WHEREAS, JESSICA LOBO ATNIP received a Masters of Education
32 degree in Secondary Education and Teaching from Chaminade
33 University of Honolulu; and

34
35 WHEREAS, over the course of her career, JESSICA LOBO ATNIP
36 has worked with outstanding educators and forged profound
37 connections with her colleagues and students; she values the
38 incredible progress made by her English Language students who
39 have made extensive efforts on their English Language



1 Proficiency assessments, an accomplishment noted by numerous
2 Representatives; and

3
4 WHEREAS, with a passion for guiding young minds, JESSICA
5 LOBO ATNIP takes great pride in offering unconditional support
6 to her students and is an exceptionally valuable member of her
7 community; and

8
9 WHEREAS, KISA MATLIN was recently named the Pearl City-
10 Waipahu Complex finalist for the 2022 Teacher of Promise Award
11 from the Milken Educators of Hawai'i; and

12
13 WHEREAS, an alumna of Punahou School, KISA MATLIN earned
14 her B.S. in environmental science at the University of Notre
15 Dame and M.Ed with a concentration in STEM education at Southern
16 Methodist University; and

17
18 WHEREAS, KISA MATLIN served two years with the Teach for
19 America Dallas-Fort Worth Corps and a term with Kupu's
20 Environmental Education Leadership Program, where she partnered
21 with Department of Education schools to implement 'āina-based
22 curriculum; and

23
24 WHEREAS, KISA MATLIN is in her third year of teaching at
25 Waipahu High School, where she works with the Academy of Natural
26 Resources as a Science and CTE educator; she also serves as a
27 co-advisor of the Academy of Natural Resources Ambassadors
28 Program and Waipahu High School Chapter of Future Farmers of
29 America; and

30
31 WHEREAS, the impact of KISA MATLIN's work is a testament to
32 her role model and grandmother, Lillian Shigeko Hatate, who was
33 a Hawai'i Department of Education educator for 30 years, and KISA
34 MATLIN strives to pay the gift of education and knowledge
35 forward; now, therefore,

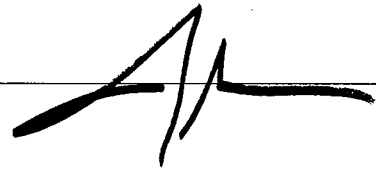
36
37 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
38 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular
39 Session of 2023, that this body hereby congratulates ESTHER KWON
40 for receiving the 2023 Milken Educator Award and HIPPOLYTE ASSI,
41 ANNIE HENBEST, JESSICA LOBO ATNIP, and KISA MATLIN for being



1 named the 2022 Teacher of Promise Award finalists for the Hilo-
2 Waiākea, Ka'u-Kea'au-Pāhoa, 'Aiea-Moanalua-Radford, and Pearl
3 City-Waipahu Complexes, commends their outstanding
4 accomplishments and community involvement, and extends to them
5 its warmest aloha and best wishes for continued success in all
6 future endeavors.

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9

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line and a few vertical strokes.

MAR 17 2023

