

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 24, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 3101  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Education and Labor & Public Employment,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 3101, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve early childhood education in the state by implementing and appropriating funds for the recommendations of the temporary Early Childhood Education Task Force established by Act 151, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, including:

- (1) Creating the Early Learning Authority to develop, implement, and provide for the sustainability of a coherent, comprehensive early learning system that maximizes public and private resources to provide early learning opportunities for all children in the state up to age eight; and
- (2) Establishing the conceptual framework for Hawaii's early learning system.

The University of Hawaii, Good Beginnings Alliance, Hawaii Educational Policy Center, Waianae Coast Early Childhood Services, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, American Academy of Pediatrics, Hawaii Chapter, Childcare Business Coalition, KCAA Preschools of Hawaii, Calvary Episcopal Preschool, Good Beginnings



Council - Maui, and a concerned individual testified in support of this bill. The Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture supported this measure with reservations. The Department of Education (DOE), Department of Human Services, Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children, and Keiki O Ka Aina supported the intent of this bill. A concerned individual offered comments.

Upon consideration, your Committees have amended this bill by replacing its entire contents. As amended, this bill:

- (1) Establishes and appropriates funds for the Early Learning Educational Task Force (Task Force), which:
  - (A) Will develop plans and timelines for a coherent, comprehensive, and sustainable early learning system, including making recommendations for the early learning system and submitting reports to the Governor and Legislature; and
  - (B) Is composed of two working groups, including:
    - (i) The interdepartmental working group which will develop plans to maximize public and private resources to provide early learning opportunities for all children in the state who are four years old by January 1 of that school year; and
    - (ii) The quality assurance working group which will focus on issues of quality in early childhood education;
- (2) Appropriates funds to build upon the existing framework and services for early childhood learning, including:
  - (A) Enhancing junior kindergarten services to ensure children are provided with learning experiences that promote the skills they need to be successful in kindergarten or first grade;
  - (B) Expanding to three new sites DOE's Families for R.E.A.L., an early childhood program that fosters interaction between parents and their children; and
  - (C) Supporting grantees of the Early Head Start and Head Start programs, comprehensive early childhood



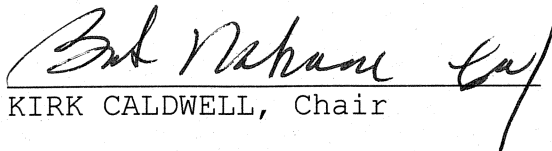
education programs that serve low-income children  
and families;

and

- (3) Takes effect on July 1, 2006; provided that the bill  
shall be repealed on July 1, 2008.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your  
Committees on Education and Labor & Public Employment that are  
attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the  
intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3101, S.D. 2, as amended herein,  
and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached  
hereto as S.B. No. 3101, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the  
Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Education and  
Labor & Public Employment,


  
KIRK CALDWELL, Chair

  
ROY TAKUMI, Chair





**Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> SB 3101 SD2		<b>Date:</b> 3-20-06		
<b>Committee Referral:</b> EDN/LAB, FIN		<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.		
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit				
<b>LAB Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1. CALDWELL, Kirk (C)	✓			
2. NAKASONE, Bob (VC)	✓			
3. CHONG, Pono	✓			
4. ITO, Ken	✓			
5. OSHIRO, Marcus R.				✓
6. SHIMABUKURO, Maile S. L.				✓
7. SOUKI, Joseph M.				✓
8. MEYER, Colleen Rose				✓
9. STEVENS, Anne V.		✓		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Clerk's Office				