

December 28, 2006

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
And Members of the Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madame President and Members of the Senate:

I am pleased to submit the attached 2006 Good Beginnings Alliance Annual Report and School Readiness Task Force Report to the Regular Session of the 2007 Legislature as required in Act 77: An Act Relating to Early Childhood Education.

Good Beginnings Alliance just completed its ninth operational year, and we in collaboration with our partners have made significant strides to increase our focus on the safety, health, and school readiness of Hawaii's keiki. Our major accomplishments included:

1. Administering the third annual **Hawaii State School Readiness Assessment**, an online statewide measurement of our schools' readiness for entering kindergarteners and these same students' readiness for school.
2. Convening the first **P-3 Summit** to bring early childhood and K-3 educators together to work on common concerns and solutions for Hawaii's youngest learners.
3. Coming to agreement with early childhood partners on the first steps for an **early childhood education and care system plan** for Hawaii.
4. **Raising public and private resources (\$1.3 million+)** and partnering with communities to sustain our children's well-being.

Finally, we truly appreciate your support during the 2006 Legislative Session for Act 259 and the establishment the Early Education Task Force. This Act will greatly aid all of the early childhood partners in developing a spectrum of services for the betterment of all of Hawaii's young children.

We look forward to 2007, and continuing our work with your administration and the Legislature to ensure all of Hawaii's children are safe, healthy, and ready to learn. If there are any questions, please contact me at 531-5502. Thank you.

Aloha,



Elisabeth Chun
Executive Director