

February 4, 2008

LATE

Pualani Pua'oi
P. O. Box 441
Ho'olehua, Moloka'i, Hawai'i, 96729

Aloha 'e Senator English,

My name is Pualani Pua'oi I'm the parent of Ka'ena Pua'oi Dawson who is presently enrolled with the Hawaiian Immersion Program of Moloka'i High School. I am in full support of S.B. 2728, to provide the off ratio teaching positions to the Hawaiian Immersion Program of Moloka'i High and Middle School. I would like to have more Hawaiian teachers in the Hawaiian Language Program because it would be very helpful to increase the achievement of our students through the Hawaiian Language.

Two of my children graduated from the Hawaiian Immersion Program, my son Ka'imikaua, in 2005 and daughter Lei'ilimalani, in 2006. It was a struggle raising funds in Punana Leo, Kualapu'u Elementary, Moloka'i Intermediate and now Moloka'i High School. My baby Ka'ena will be the third to graduate in the Hawaiian Immersion program 2008 and I am thankful that we have dedicated teachers like Kumu Manuwai and Kumu Mahinahou who faithfully took this long and exciting journey of perpetuating the language and culture of Hawai'i with my children.

In 2000-2001, the Hawaiian Immersion Program began with two full-time Intermediate teachers, Kumu Manuwai Peters and Kumu Mahinahou Ross. As the program expanded we were in need of another full-time teacher position to help accommodate the High School students. In 2005-2006, the DOE gave us the option to hire a new teacher and it was very slim because of lack of funds. Our parents held a meeting with the principal and vice principal, to request for another full-time Immersion teacher. Kumu Mahinahou was given the option to teach Science part-time in an English environment and part-time as a Science teacher for our Hawaiian Immersion Program however; he gave up his full-time Hawaiian Immersion position in order for the DOE to hire Kumu Kuoha as a full-time Intermediate teacher with the program.

Presently, Kumu Manuwai is the only full-time Hawaiian Immersion teacher in the High School level who does lessons plans for students in the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade. Kumu Mahinahou continues to work part-time as a High School Immersion Science teacher also teaching 9th, 10th 11th & 12 grade and Kumu Kuoha is the full-time Immersion teacher for 7th and 8th grade students. We are in dire need of a full-time position for Kumu Mahinahou, and it's way over due on the part of the DOE because every year is the same old story, "No Funds."

In closing, twenty years have passed and I'm proud to say that my children and I have had the most loving, caring, and professional educational experience with Kumu Manuwai and Kumu Mahinahou and I support S.B. 2728 to provide off ratio teaching positions to help our teachers further their knowledge of teaching future generations that are committed to learning the Hawaiian Language and Culture of Hawai'i.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
No kou kako'o ana i ke'ola o na Hawai'i,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Elizabeth F. Pua'i". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Pualani Pua'oi

February 4, 2008

Duane Mika'ele Dawson
P. O. Box 1992
Ho'olehua, Moloka'i, Hawai'i, 96748

Aloha 'e Senator English,

My name is Duane Mika'ele Dawson I'm the parent of Ka'ena Pua'oi Dawson who is presently enrolled with the Hawaiian Immersion Program of Moloka'i High School. I am in full support of S.B. 2728, to provide the off ratio teaching positions to the Hawaiian Language Program of Moloka'i High and Middle School. I would like to have more Hawaiian teachers in the Hawaiian Language Program because it would be very helpful to increase the achievement of our students through the Hawaiian Language.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
No kou kako'o ana i ke'ola o na Hawai'i,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Mika'ele Dawson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.


Duane Mika'ele Dawson

Theodora Pili'aloa Sibayan
P.O. BOX 1641
Kaunakakai HI, 96748

'Ano ai e Kalani English,

My name is Theodora Sibayan, and I'm a parent of one immersion graduate and five children currently enrolled at the three immersion sites in Moloka'i. I'm in full support of S.B. 2728 that will provide off ratio teaching position to Moloka'i High and Moloka'i Middle School. As a parent, I have purposely chosen this option for my children as it is a birthright for them and is a provision of article X, section 4 of the constitution of our state. My children needs a quality education in the Hawaiian Language Program and need your support with S.B. 2728. Mahalo nui loa Kalani for taking your time in reading this letter, and I hope you support S.B. 2728.

Me ke aloha,


Theodora "Pili" Sibayan

Ferdinand and Melody-Lynn Alcon
Po Box 1290
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

02/04/08

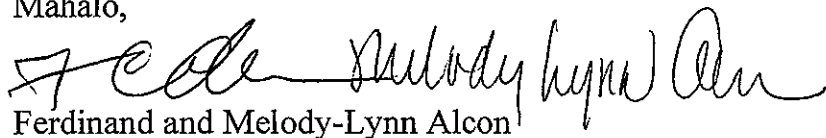
Hello Senator English,

It's me Melody. I am writing this letter concerning my granddaughters Kealakai Alcon and Kolonahe Balbas and their attendance in the Hawaiian immersion programs on Molokai.

I am asking you to support S.B 2728 to provide off- ratio teaching position for Molokai high and Molokai middle. The HLIP program has been successful despite the lack of teachers in the classroom. We are at a crucial turning point on Molokai and are in need of more teachers at the secondary level.

The program has improved education throughout the state and on Molokai, the results have had a positive effect on our community. Please support S.B. 2728.

Mahalo,


Ferdinand and Melody-Lynn Alcon

Scarlett Ritte
P.O Box 486
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

2/4/08

Aloha mai e senator English,

My name is Scarlett Ritte and I am in support of S.B 2728 to provide off-ratio teaching positions to Molokai high and intermediate school. My daughters, son, and grandchildren have been in the Hawaiian immersion school since they were in preschool, and they are struggling with just one Hawaiian immersion teacher at the high and middle, respectively. We need greater support of this program.

With just one more teacher position, the efforts at our schools can be doubled and therefore provide a more quality education.

I thank you very much for your support in helping my children and grandchildren and the Hawaiian culture on Molokai through education.

Sincerely,



Scarlett Ritte

Sherman & Cammie Napoleon
P.O. BOX 95
Kualapu'u, HI 96757

2/4/08

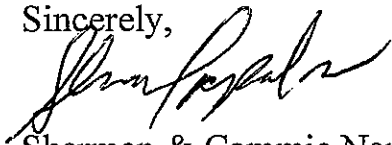
Aloha Senator English,

My name is Sherman Napoleon I am a proud homesteader of Ho'olehua Molokai and parent of a Hawaiian language immersion program student. I am in support of the S.B 2728 to provide off ratio teaching positions to Molokai high and Molokai's middle school.

The program has been a positive thing for my family ever since it was started at Kualapu'u elementary. If we are to continue this program, we are in need of more teachers. This program has had a positive impact on my family and community. These students have enriched Molokai in too many ways to list.

Thank you for your support of S.B 2728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherman & Cammie Napoleon', written in a cursive style.

Sherman & Cammie Napoleon

Julie Ann E. Naki
P.O. Box 773
Kaunakakai HI, 96748

Aloha mai e Kalani English,

My name is Julie Ann Elano Naki, and I live on the east side of Moloka'i. I am a parent of 6 wonderful children. Among my six children, one of my child is promptly enrolled in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program on the island of Moloka'i.

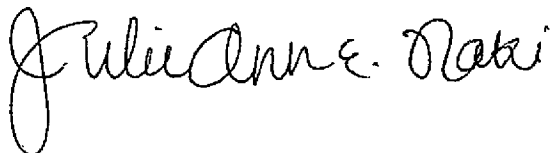
I put my whole heart and sole in supporting the S.B. 2728 that will provide my child and all the other children a new teacher that can benefit our children's education in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

My daughter, who is my youngest child, was the only one that had the opportunity to enroll in the immersion program. We need another teacher position at the middle and high immersion programs at Molokai to provide the best possible education to our children.

Kalani, please support S.B. 2728. We appreciate all the work you do for us on Molokai. Please do not hesitate to ask me for help this year.

Mahalo,

Julie Ann E. Naki

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Anne Naki". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Tammielynn Wai'au Kalua
P.O.Box 64
Ho'olehua HI, 96729

2/5/08

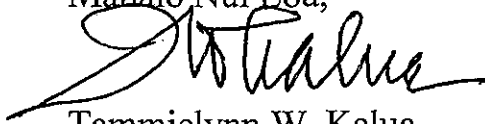
Aloha e Kalani English,

My name is Tammielynn W. Kalua, and I'm a parent of a Hawaiian Immersion child who is graduating this year.

I support this S.B 2728 that will provide an off ratio teacher for both Molokai High and Molokai Middle school. As a parent, I have chosen this option for my child as his birthright, it is also a provision of article X, Section 4 of the constitution of our state.

My child needs a quality education so he can pass the knowledge on to his family. I just want to thank you for supporting S.B 2728.

Mahalo Nui Loa,



Tammielynn W. Kalua
Molokai Resident and Parent

Aloha Senator English

My name is Gandharva Mahina Hou Ross and I am a teacher at Molokai High School. I graduated from Kahuawaiola Hawaiian Medium Teacher training program in 2000 and began my teaching career as a Hawaiian immersion teacher at Molokai High School. As the school continued to grow and expand we were faced with the dilemma of not enough teaching positions to meet the needs of our students. In order to meet these needs I became a regular ed. science teacher at Molokai High School who is allowed to teach 2 science classes in Hawaiian to the immersion students.

The reason I became a teacher in the first place was to meet the needs of the Hawaiian Language immersion students and yet due to financial constraints I am unable to service these needs. I feel very strongly that Senate Bill 2728 must be passed. This bill will allow me to return to my area of certification.

I also want to speak to the future of the HLIP on Molokai. Currently I have children enrolled in 4th grade and kindergarten at Kualapuu HLIP and my youngest is in the Punana Leo preschool system. We have seen a resurgence of young parents enrolling there children in the HLIP at the elementary level. We need to show them that the program still exists and is thriving at the middle and high school levels. With only 1 teacher at the high school and 1 teacher at the middle school level, this is very difficult to validate. I feel this bill would go a long way in showing the states commitment to the program on Molokai.

I would like to humbly thank you for all of your support in the past and ask for your continued support of HLIP on Molokai as well as the rest of the state of Hawaii. I would also like to ask for continued support on this Bill 2728 to ensure that the Hawaiian language lives on in Molokai

E OLA MAU KA OLELO HAWAII

Na'u no me ka ha'aha'a
Gandharva Mahina Hou Ross



Aloha Senator English

My name is Gandharva Mahina Hou Ross and I am a teacher at Molokai High School. I graduated from Kahuawaiola Hawaiian Medium Teacher training program in 2000 and began my teaching career as a Hawaiian immersion teacher at Molokai High School. As the school continued to grow and expand we were faced with the dilemma of not enough teaching positions to meet the needs of our students. In order to meet these needs I became a regular ed. science teacher at Molokai High School who is allowed to teach 2 science classes in Hawaiian to the immersion students.

The reason I became a teacher in the first place was to meet the needs of the Hawaiian Language immersion students and yet due to financial constraints I am unable to service these needs. I feel very strongly that Senate Bill 2728 must be passed. This bill will allow me to return to my area of certification.

I also want to speak to the future of the HLIP on Molokai. Currently I have children enrolled in 4th grade and kindergarten at Kualapuu HLIP and my youngest is in the Punana Leo preschool system. We have seen a resurgence of young parents enrolling there children in the HLIP at the elementary level. We need to show them that the program still exists and is thriving at the middle and high school levels. With only 1 teacher at the high school and 1 teacher at the middle school level, this is very difficult to validate. I feel this bill would go a long way in showing the states commitment to the program on Molokai.

I would like to humbly thank you for all of your support in the past and ask for your continued support of HLIP on Molokai as well as the rest of the state of Hawaii. I would also like to ask for continued support on this Bill 2728 to ensure that the Hawaiian language lives on in Molokai

E OLA MAU KA OLELO HAWAII

Na'u no me ka ha'aha'a
Gandharva Mahina Hou Ross



*Donna Tangonan
P.O Box 1875
Kaunakakai, HI 96748*

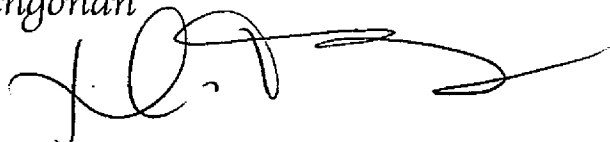
February 4, 2008

Aloha Senator English,

My name is Donna Tangonan. I am a resident of Kaunakakai, Molokai. I am in support of S.B. 2728 to provide off ratio teaching positions to Molokai High & Middle School. I have two daughters attending Molokai High & Molokai Middle School. I would like to see more Hawaiian Language Immersion Teachers in the program. As currently, there is only one at the Middle School, and one at the High School. Our students and the Hawaiian culture deserves more. Mahalo for supporting S.B. 2728.

Sincerely,

Donna Tangonan

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donna Tangonan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jaty K. Pua'a-Spencer
P.O. Box 466,
Kaunakakai, HI, 96748
02 / 04 / 08

Aloha Senator English,

My name is Jaty Kealohilani Pua'a-Spencer and I am a proud parent of a Hawaiian Language Immersion student of Molokai high school. My son has been a student of the Hawaiian Language program for 15 years. The reason for this letter is to provide support for S.B. 2728 to provide off ratio teaching positions to Molokai High and Molokai Intermediate Schools.

I believe that more teaching positions for this program is needed, because of the lack of teaching positions now. I am concern for the future of not only the program but for the future of Hawaiian Language speaking students. Without teachers this program will die, and without the program the language could also die.

So in conclusion I want to stress the importance of S.B. 2728 to offer our School's more teaching positions for the Hawaiian Language Program, and I want to thank you for your support. Mahalo!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Jaty K. Pua'a-Spencer', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jaty K. Pua'a-Spencer

Larry & Peke Sagario
P.O. Box 575
Kaunakakai, HI, 96748
February 4th, 2008

Dear Senator English,

My name is Peke Sagario. My family and I are living in Kaunakakai, and I have two children who are currently attending the Hawaiian Immersion Program. I have a son who is in the Elementary Kula Kaiapuni and a daughter in the High School Kula Kaiapuni. For both of my children's future, I am very concerned about their education in the program. That is why I strongly support the S.B. 2728 to provide the off ratio teaching positions in both the Molokai High and Middle School. I feel that only one teacher for both the Middle and High School is not enough to teach all the students the different subjects. That is why we are in need of some new teachers to come and better the education for our children. My family and I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this letter and to support the S.B. 2728.

Yours Sincerely,



Peke Sagario

Christy Lenwai Kaiama & Kimo Kaiama

P.O.BOX 358 Ho'olehua H.I. 96729

02/04/08

Dear Senator English,

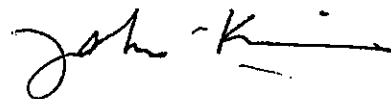
My name is Christy Lenwai Kaiama, and I live in Hawai'i on the beautiful island of Moloka'i. I am writing this letter in behalf of my daughter. I am in support of S.B. 2728 to provide off-ratio teaching positions to Moloka'i high and middle school.

I have a daughter, four nieces, and a nephew that are enrolled in the Hawaiian Immersion Program, and I am concerned about their education. There is only one teacher in both the Moloka'i high school, and middle school, and it would be nice if you could offer more teachers in the Hawaiian Immersion Program to better their education.

In conclusion, my family and I would like to thank you for your time, and support of S.B. 2728.

Sincerely,

Mr. and Mrs. Kaiama

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kaiama". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathleen Mendes
P.O. Box 144
Ho'olehua HI, 96729
2/4/08

Aloha Senator English,


My name is Kathleen Mendes. I am from Ho'olehua, Moloka'i. I am a proud grandparent of a student who's currently in the 'O Hina I Ka Malama Hawaiian Language Immersion Program at Moloka'i High School.

I am in support of S.B. 2728 to provide off ratio teaching positions to Moloka'i high and Middle School.

I am very concerned to whether or not the Hawaiian Immersion Program is going to continue. Having more teachers in our Immersion Program could offer students more opportunities to learn through the medium of Hawaiian.

Mahalo for your support of S.B. 2728.

Sincerely,


Kathleen Mendes

LATE

'Iolani Ku'oha
P.O. Box 1351
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

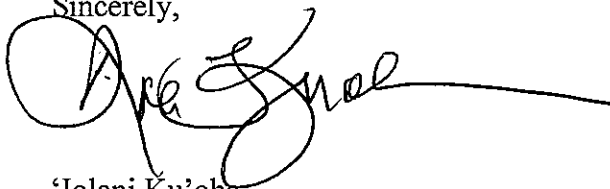
Aloha Senate Members,

Aloha, my name is 'Iolani Ku'oha and I am the Kumu for 'O Hina I ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena at Moloka'i Middle School.

I strongly support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position. I am the only teacher which teaches all core subjects with an exception of Science and PE, at times it may be difficult to teach all subjects with no support, but I strongly believe in the Hawaiian Language Immersion program being a parent first with a proud 2006 graduate of 'O Hina I ka Malama, Ke Kula Ki'eki'e, Moloka'i High School.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iolani Ku'oha', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

'Iolani Ku'oha
Kumu, 'O Hina I Ka Malama
Moloka'i Middle School

Kanani Costales
P.O. Box 947
Kaunakakai, Hawaii 96748

February 7, 2008

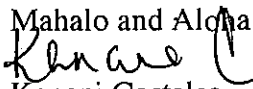
Aloha Kakou Senate Members

I am a parent of a student in the Hawaiian Immersion Program at our Molokai Middle School. My child has been a student in the program since kindergarten and flourished in her language and virtue as a Native Hawaiian.

Therefore, I am writing this letter in support of S.B. No. 2728. this Senate bill is a bill which speaks of needing more teachers in this field. We are short of teachers in the State of Hawaii as it may be—however there are many of both Hawaiian ancestry and Non-Hawaiian ancestry that need to know both the language and with the language comes the history of Hawaii and its' people.

Both American History and the American Language(universal) are taught to many different cultures both in the United States and out of the U.S. to carry on its' legacy, why not Hawaii carry on its' legacy as both an alive and vibrant language and culture.

Please consider our plea for more teacher positions in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

Mahalo and Aloha

Kanani Costales
Parent Supporter

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

To whom it may concern,

Aloha, I am a community member of Moloka'i.

I am in support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,

Community Member

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amelia J. Perdue". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "A".

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

To whom it may concern,

Aloha, I am a community member of Moloka'i.

I am in support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,

Community Member

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ceilie Kameha". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

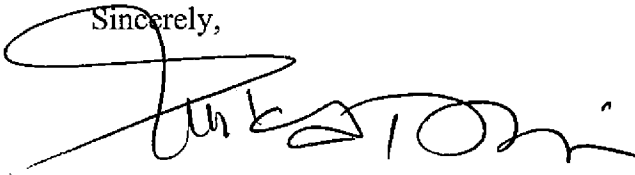
To whom it may concern,

Aloha, I am a community member of Moloka'i.

I am in support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allennic KT Naele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "N".

Community Member
Allennic KT Naele

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

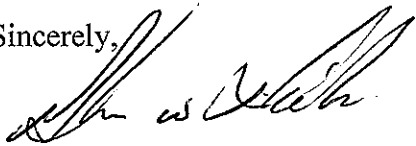
To whom it may concern,

Aloha, I am a community member of Moloka'i.

I am in support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon W. Nae'ole". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Community Member

Gordon W. Nae'ole

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

To whom it may concern,

Aloha, I am a community member of Moloka'i.

I am in support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,


Puanani Johnston

Community Member
and Kumu Kula Kaiapuni
PO Box 49
Kualapuu, HI 96757

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

To whom it may concern,

Aloha, I am a community member of Moloka'i.

I am in support of SB 2728 which speaks of a teacher position at Moloka'i Middle. The Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of a teacher position.

It will be greatly appreciated for your support of SB 2728.

Sincerely,

Michelle Maiolo

Community Member

Michelle Maiolo

February 5, 2008

Aloha Senate members,

I am a grandparent of an immersion student. I am in favor of S.B. No. 2728, where we are in need of more Hawaiian speaking teachers. Being that every year, in Molokai, more students are enrolling in the Hawaiian Immersion Program. Some of these students are in great need of one on one basis. Making a transition from Hawaiian to English is very hard for an Hawaiian Immersion student, especially when they've learned Hawaiian from pre-school to the 7th grade.

So thank you for your time to read this letter-----

Mahalo nui loa-

Monette M. Kamelamela

Monette M. Kamelamela

Ka'onohi Gomard
P.O Box 1396
Kaunakakai HI 96748

February 06, 2008

Aloha e na Senate Members,

My name is Ka'onohi Gomard, I am an 8th grader in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, 'O Hina I Ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena with Moloka'i Middle School.

I am writing a support letter for SB 2728. The SB 2728 speaks of funding to hire a new teacher for the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, specifically for Moloka'i Middle School.

I support Senate Bill 2728 because I am a student in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program and I believe that we need more teachers in our Program.

Thank you for taking your time to read my letter.

Sincerely,



Ka'onohi Gomard

Brianna Kaiulani Tangonan
P.O. Box 1875
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Welina mai me ke aloha e na Senate Members,

Aloha, my name is Brianna Kaiulani Tangonan, I am an 8th grade student of 'O Hina I Ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena, the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program at Moloka'i Middle School.

I'm writing this letter in support of S.B. No. 2728. Senate Bill No. 2728 speaks of how the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is in need of more teachers.

I support Senate Bill No. 2728, because we need more teachers to help us learn in our Native Tongue. I think it would be better to stay with the Hawaiian Language Immersion teachers to teach all of our subjects because we learn everything in Hawaiian. Another reason for support of this Bill if we get more teachers we can increase our knowledge.

Mahalo nui for reading and supporting my letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brianna Tangonan".

Brianna Tangonan

Kalawai'a Paleka
P.O. Box121
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Aloha Senate Members,

My name is Kalawai'a Paleka and I am a proud Hawaiian who is currently in the 7th grade of 'O Hina I Ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena with Moloka'i Middle School. I support Senate Bill 2728 because we need more teachers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kalawai'a Paleka". The script is cursive and fluid.

Kalawai'a Paleka

Haloa Hamakua
P.O. Box 1615
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Welina Mai Me Ke Aloha,

Aloha, my name is Haloa Hamakua , I am a student at 'O Hina I Ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena with Moloka'i Middle School, attending the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program. I support SB 2728 because I want the Hawaiian language to stay alive and the need for more teachers to kokua in all subjects in Hawaiian so the next generation of haumana will continue the purpose of the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

Sincerely,

Haloa Hamakua
Haloa Hamakua

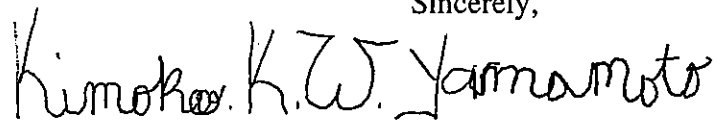
Kimokeo K.W. Yamamoto
P.O. Box 95
Kualapu'u, HI 96757

February 6, 2008

Aloha Senate Members,

Aloha, my name is Kimokeo K.W. Yamamoto and I attend 'O Hina I ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena with Moloka'i Middle School with the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program. I am proud to be a Hawaiian in the 7th grade. I support S.B. no . 2728 because we need more teachers. We need teachers to kokua with specific subjects, for example, Science or Physical Education. I support S.B. NO. 2728

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimokeo K.W. Yamamoto". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

Kimokeo K.W. Yamamoto

Kwaylen Ka'io Kalawe
P.O. Box 1621
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Aloha Senate members,

My name is Ka'io Kalawe, I am a student of 'O Hina I Ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena at Moloka'i Middle School with the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program. I am in full support of S.B. 2728. I feel we need more Hawaiian Language Immersion teachers to help teach all subjects that are required by the State of Hawai'i, Department of Education. We need to keep the Hawaiian language alive.

Aloha,

Ka'io Kalawe
Ka'io Kalawe

Namaka Kamelamela
P.O. Box 2086
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Aloha Senate Members,

My name is Namaka Kamelamela and I am a 7th grader with 'O Hina I ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena with Moloka'i Middle School which is a Hawai'ian Language Immersion Program. I am proud to be Hawai'ian and I strongly support SB 2728 because we need Hawaiian Language Immersion teachers.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Namaka Kamelamela". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Namaka" and last name "Kamelamela" clearly legible.

Namaka Kamelamela

Kaleonahe Sibayan
P.O. Box 1641
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Aloha Senate Members,

My name is Kaleonahe Sibayan and I am in the 7th grade. I am a student of 'O Hina I ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena at Moloka'i Middle School, I strongly support S.B 2728 because we need kokua at Moloka'i Middle school with teachers. I also support S.B. 2728 because Hawaiian Language Immersion teachers are an asset to our program.

Sincerely,

Kaleonahe Sibayan

Kaleonahe Sibayan

Namakanaloe Pa-Kala
P.O. Box 61
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 6, 2008

Aloha Senate Members ,

My name is Namakanaloe Pa-Kala, I am a proud student of 'o Hina I ka Malama, Ke Kula Waena with Moloka'i Middle School. I support Senate Bill SB No. 2728 because I think we are in need of more Hawaiian language Immersion teachers. Without SB No. 2728 we would only have one teacher and with the numbers of students entering Middle School, we should have more teachers.

Thank you and I hope you support us in supporting SB No.2728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "namakanaloe Pa-kala". The signature is written in a cursive, lowercase style.

Namakanaloe Pa-Kala

Jessica Kanani Sanchez
P.O. Box 947
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

February 5, 2008

Aloha Senate Members,

My name is Jessica Kanani Sanchez, and I am a proud 8th grade student of Molokai Middle School in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, O Hina I Ka Malama Ke Kula Waena.

I am writing this letter in support of S.B. No. 2728. Senate bill is a bill, which speaks of needing more teachers helping in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, in different types of subject. I support the S.B No. 2728, because I have been in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program for along time and have enjoyed the program, but I think that the next generation coming would love the opportunity of having more teachers to help in thee program as they go through the program.

Thank you, for taking the time in reading my letter and for the support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kanani Sanchez". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Kanani Sanchez

Hina Hanapi-Hirata
P.O BOX 1622
Kaunakakai, HI 96748

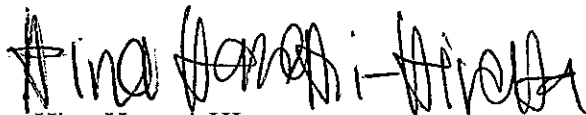
February, 5, 2008

Aloha Senate Members,

I am Hina Hanapi-Hirata, a proud student of 'O Hina I Ka Malama Hawai'ian Language Immersion program at Moloka'I Middle School. I am an 8th grader and I support S.B 2728. Senate Bill 2728 is about how the Hawai'ian Language Immersion Program needs more teachers because teaching positions are most needed. I support S.B 2728 because here at 'O Hina I Ka Malama at Moloka'I Middle School we only have one teacher and the teacher teaches all subjects except science, I think our teacher needs more support.

I thank you Senate Members for reading my letter and that I hope you support S.B 2728.

Sincerely,


Hina Hanapi-Hirata

02.08.08

L A T E

To whom it may concern,

I am a concerned parent with keiki in the Hawaiian Language immersion program at Pū'ōhala Elementary School. It has been brought to my attention by our teachers that there will be combo classes again next year. This is because of the low numbers in grades 1-6. The teachers have also been informed by their principal that there will be combo classes next year.

My concern is the work overload for our teachers and the desire for our children to have the highest quality of education they can receive for the whole year. This is what I am requesting for the advancement of our keiki:

1. No more combo classes
2. One teacher per grade level
3. More time for teachers to collaborate in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program (HLIP).
4. SPED services

Each grade level is not the same as the one above or below it. The standards and benchmarks are very different. To ask teachers to "just differentiate" their instruction is a lot easier said than done. This is one obstacle to get over. The next obstacle is the translation of text. Many times, teachers have new material to cover, or just may want to update their repertoire. Translation and making sure it is grade appropriate is something they need to do daily.

A new challenge for the teachers in HLIP is to grade for oral proficiency in the target language. They will be using rubrics to grade for vocabulary and language acquisition. HLIP workshops are many, and teachers need time to collaborate with their HLIP peers to share ideas learned.

At this time, HLIP teachers are given a 45-minute block once a month (and sometimes not even that) to quickly go over curriculum change mandated by the immersion office. They needed to "jump through hoops" to get Thursday lunch time to meet. They are required to do everything their English teaching counterparts need to do and then also do their immersion mandates when "time permits," not to mention preparation for our cultural events that define who we are. We can only pray for a proper Ho'omau and 'Imi Pono performance.

This is absolutely unfair to my child. My child needs her teacher's 100% focus in the target language. My child needs her teacher to have the time to translate new texts in order for her to be interested in stories to be read in class. My child needs teachers who are up to date in the Hawaiian language immersion realm...not to mention Special

Education services if need be. I heard that if my keiki is SPED, then she needs to leave the HLIP program. This is unjust, and I am willing to take it to a higher level if need be.

In conclusion, I, as a parent in the Pū'ōhala Hawaiian Language Immersion Program am kindly requesting:

1. No more combo classes
2. One teacher per grade level
3. More time for teachers to collaborate in the Hawaiian Language Immersion.
4. SPED services

Sincerely,

Kilolani Pamatigan
kaluhea@hawaii.rr.com
Makuahine,
Hanohano Pamatigan, papa 4

L A T E

To whom it may concern,

We are a group of concerned parents with keiki in the Hawaiian Language immersion program at Pū'ōhala Elementary School. It has been brought to our attention by our teachers that there will be combo classes again next year. This is because of the low numbers in grades 1-6. The teachers have been informed by their principal that there will be combo classes next year.

Our concern is the work overload for our teachers, and the desire for our children to have the highest quality of education they can receive for the whole year. This is what we are requesting for the advancement of our keiki:

1. No more combo classes
2. One teacher per grade level
3. More time for teachers to collaborate in the Hawaiian Language Immersion.
4. SPED services

Grade one is not the same as grade two. The standards and benchmarks are very different. To ask teachers to “just differentiate” their instruction is a lot easier said than done. This is one obstacle to get over. The next obstacle is the translation of text. Many times, teachers have new material to cover, or just may want to update her repertoire. Translation, and making sure it is grade appropriate is something they need to do daily.

A new challenge for the teachers in HLIP is to grade for oral proficiency in the target language. They will be using rubrics to grade for vocabulary and language acquisition. HLIP workshops are many, and teachers need time to collaborate with their HLIP peers to share ideas learned.

At this time, HLIP teachers are give a 45 minute block once a month (and sometimes not even that) to quickly go over curriculum change mandated by the immersion office. They needed to “jump through hoops” to get Thursday lunch time to meet. They are required to to everything their English teaching counterparts need to do, and then their immersion mandates when

“time permits.” Not to mention preparation for our cultural events that define who we are. We can only pray for a proper Ho‘omau and ‘Imipono performance.

This is absolutely unfair to my child. My child needs his/her teacher’s 100% focus in the target language. My child needs his teacher to have the time to translate new texts in order for him to be interested in stories read in class. My child needs teachers who are up to date in the Hawaiian language immersion realm...not to mention Special Education services if need be. We heard that if our keiki is SPED, then they need to leave the program. This is unjust, and we are willing to take it to a higher level if need be.

In conclusion, we, the parents of Pū‘ōhala Hawaiian Language Immersion Program are kindly requesting:

5. No more combo classes
6. One teacher per grade level
7. More time for teachers to collaborate in the Hawaiian Language Immersion.
8. SPED services

Sincerely,

Kevin Kaohelaulii and Sara Kaohelaulii

Parents of Masina and Hikialani Kaohelaulii