



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 17, 2010

Testimony of Representative Faye P. Hanohano before the House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs in **Support** of SB2903 SD2 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE.

Aloha Chair Carroll and the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs.

I wish to express my support for this measure which strengthens and ensures a continuum of Hawaiian medium education from the early grades through college. Education is the fountainhead of a strong people so I am in support of positive efforts to strengthen our Hawaiian education curriculum.

E ho`omau i ka `ōlelo Hawai`i.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Faye P. Hanohano".

Faye P. Hanohano
State Representative, District 4

Linda Lingle
Governor



Vanelle Maunalei Love
Executive Director

Charter School Administrative Office

1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: 586-3775 Fax: 586-3776

FOR: SB2903 SD2, Relating to the Hawaiian Language College
DATE: Wednesday, March 17, 2010
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
COMMITTEE(S): Hawaiian Affairs
ROOM: Conference Room 329
FROM: Maunalei Love, Executive Director

Comments on S.B. No. 2903 S.D. No. 2

Chair- Representative Mele Carroll
Vice Chair- Representative Maile Shimabukuro
and Members of the Committees:

Aloha, I am Maunalei Love, executive director of the Charter School Administrative Office. I want to thank the chair and the entire committee for the time and effort being spent to remedy the issue of providing funding and resources for the public charter schools.

This bill seeks to build upon the successes achieved by Nawahiokalani'opu'u and the Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. They have shown a model for maintaining and, indeed, promoting the resurgence of the teaching of the Hawaiian Language while demonstrating overall educational achievements by their students. The CSAO lauds these accomplishments and believes that they should be celebrated. However well this bill is intended, we must oppose it for the reasons noted below:

- The bill seeks to impose a requirement that the DOE and CSAO provide to the college "all written...organizational, operational, and management materials and communications, as applicable." This would not only create an onerous task upon the parties involved but would seriously delay the turnaround on time sensitive communication.
- It seeks to transfer functions to the college that are the legal responsibilities of the DOE and CSAO.
- Some of the supports that the college seeks to give can be provided already without any changes to the statutes.
- The state and Federal Governments are asking that the CSAO demonstrate more authority and accountability, not less.
- The bill seeks to enable the transfer of funds from the CSAO to the college. The CSAO does not have the resources to be transferring any funds to the college.

We continue to advocate for support of the public charter schools and maintaining their independence and innovation with accountability and commend the committee for its attention and support to ensuring that such issues be addressed. As always, the CSAO is ready, willing, and able to help with any questions and/or revisions. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.