



**LATE**

## KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

February 12, 2009

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE  
ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

By

Neil Hannahs, Director  
Endowment/Land Assets Division

Hearing Date: Thursday, February 12, 2009  
1:25 pm, Conference Room 225

TO: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Norman Sakamoto, Vice Chair  
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair  
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Higher Education  
Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology

RE: Support of SB 508, Relating to Applied Archaeology Graduate Program at University of  
Hawai'i at Mānoa

My name is Neil Hannahs. I serve Kamehameha Schools as Director of the Land Assets Division and I wish to offer testimony on behalf of The Schools in regards SB 508 which provides critical funding to support the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Department of Anthropology's Applied Archaeology Program and several of its education and community initiatives. Kamehameha Schools firmly supports the mission of the U.H.-Mānoa Applied Archaeology Program to provide a focused alternative track for the education and training of local kama'āina and Native Hawaiian students who aspire to work in cultural resource management and historic preservation in Hawai'i.

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And the Committee on Economic Development and Technology

We see value in developing the next generation of trained professionals with Hawai'i to be the future managers of our precious materials. This type of education program directly addresses the current crisis in historic preservation and the need for greater protection of our sacred sites and cultural heritage.

Kamehameha Schools is moving forward in working collaboratively with the U.H. Mānoa Applied Archaeology Program to develop an archaeological field school on our Waialua lands (in the ahupua'a of Pa'ala'a, Kawailoa, Lauhulu, Kuikuiloa, Puanue, and Kapaeloa). The archaeological field school is scheduled to start in the Fall 2009 semester and will begin with surveying important cultural sites like Kūpopolo Heiau and conducting oral history interviews with knowledgeable kūpuna from the area. Ultimately, these research studies will provide our KS Land Assets Division with increased knowledge about the cultural resources on our lands in the North Shore by creating a site inventory of cultural resources, determining historical and cultural significance of our lands, protecting burial sites, and developing informed policy. The U.H. Applied Archaeology Program will also allow us to carry forth the will of Ke Ali'i Pauahi by educating Native Hawaiians in the field of archaeology and anthropology at the University level. More directly, this program will create an opportunity for Kamehameha students to actively participate in and learn about archaeology. In order to demonstrate our commitment, we have offered the U.H. Mānoa Applied Archaeology Program funding support this fiscal year to hire a temporary lecturer position and a graduate research assistant position for the field school component of the program.

We urge you to also support SB 508.

Mahalo for considering our views on this matter.