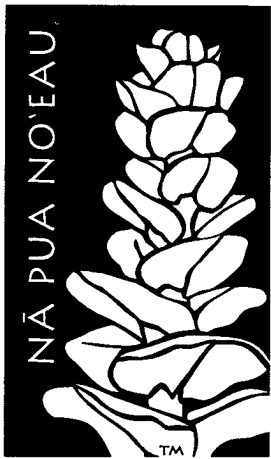


SB 985
LATE TESTIMONY



CENTER FOR GIFTED & TALENTED
NATIVE HAWAIIAN CHILDREN

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**NĀ PUA NO'EAU PROGRAMS
ARE FUNDED BY THE
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**



NĀ PUA NO'EAU
IS A PROGRAM OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
AT HILO AND IS AN
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY /
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION
INSTITUTION.

UNIVERSITY
OF HAWAII
HILO

LATE

February 9, 2011

RE: HB400/SB985

Aloha mai,

On behalf of Nā Pua No'eau as a beneficiary program who has benefited from the support from the Office Hawaiian Affairs and the population we serve, as we aspire Hawaiian students to pursue their educational and career goals for the future, within the proposed HB400/SB985, I humbly request for your advocacy in providing 100% support and funding in matching funds put forth by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs so that beneficiary programs like Nā Pua No'eau.

In the 20+ years of Nā Pua No'eau's existence, we have established and developed strong foundational outcomes in achieving our goals and mission while servicing nearly 2000 Hawaiian children per year and over 18,000 Hawaiian children throughout our center's existence. Throughout the years we have developed models and data that supports the success and potential of our Hawaiian youth both in school and post high school settings.

Nā Pua No'eaus's programmatic successes are correlational to the relationships we have established with our constituents; students, families and collaborators within the statewide university and our communities.

Enclosed with this letter you will find a list of over **1500** names of individuals who are a sampling of the many students and families we serve through the support of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Also enclosed are over 100 letters that depict just a snapshot on the relevance and importance of our program and how we have impacted the lives of many.

Again, I humbly ask for your support so that we may continue to carry on the mission of our program at full capacity.

Mahalo nui for your time,

Kinohi Gomes
Assistant Director