

**Date:** 04/20/2011

**Committee:** House Education

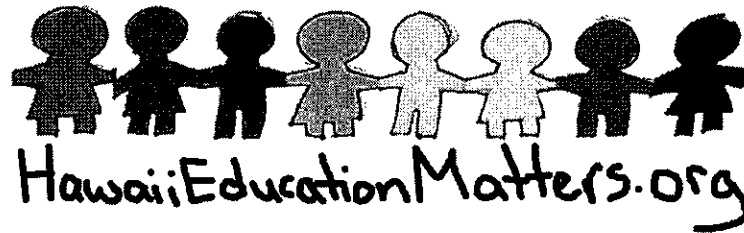
**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Resolution:** SCR 145 Requesting the Board of Education and the Department of Education to Collaborate with Parent Organizations to Develop Statewide Policies for Family Engagement for Hawaii's Public Schools

**Purpose of Resolution:** Requests the Board of Education and the Department of Education to collaborate with parent organizations to develop statewide policies for family engagement for Hawaii's public schools.

**Department's Position:** The Department of Education (Department) supports SCR 145. This resolution will promote collaboration and further partnership with parent organizations to create policies, strategies, and practices for parent engagement that will support learning and improve student achievement. The Department values the contributions of these organizations (e.g., Hawaii State Parent Teachers Association, Hawaii Education Matters) and has a history of working with them to encourage greater parent engagement, both at the state and school levels. The Board of Education has a Parent/Family Involvement Policy (#2403) that provides guidance for parent involvement, and will serve as a starting point for discussing the broader issues involved in parent engagement.



Hawaii Education Matters  
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April 19, 2011

House Committee on Education  
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Representative Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair  
Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 1:30 pm  
Conference Room 329

SCR145: Hawaii Education Matter's mission is consistent with resolution

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Au Belatti and Committee Members:

Hawaii Education Matters (HEM) is a non-partisan, non-profit parent advocacy group working to affect positive change in public education. HEM believes that successful public education is the result of coordinated and committed teamwork -- teams made up of children, parents, families, teachers, administrators, and whole communities. We know that when communities work in concert with our teachers and administrators, our schools improve.

The SCR 145 is consistent with HEM's core values:

*When parents and families are engaged in children's education, communities benefit.  
When communities take responsibility for their children and families, everyone benefits.*

HEM is thrilled to collaborate with the Department of Education and the Board of Education to develop a statewide policy for family engagement in Hawaii public schools. We believe that we all have to change the way we think about education. That it's no longer a job for teachers alone, but rather the responsibility of all of us who care about the future of Hawaii's children.

Sincerely,

Ann Davis, MPH  
Executive Director



HE'E Coalition  
4348 Waiialae Ave., Suite 322  
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April 19, 2011

House Committee on Education  
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Representative Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair  
Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 1:30 pm  
Conference Room 329

SCR145: Resolution is consistent with HE'E's mission

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Au Belatti and Committee Members:

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," is a statewide coalition of diverse stakeholders committed to working collaboratively to identify opportunities to improve public education in Hawai'i. HE'E seeks to be the focal point for community and parent engagement while serving as a public resource for educational policy. HE'E is made up of voting, non-voting members (list attached), individuals and policy makers.

SCR145 is consistent with the HE'E's mission:

*The HE'E Coalition promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.*

HE'E is delighted to collaborate with the Department of Education the Board of Education to develop a statewide policy for family engagement in Hawaii public schools.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director



## **HE'E Coalition Voting Members (\*) and Participants**

\*Academy 21

DOE Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Support

DOE Parent Community Networking Center

\*DOE Windward District

\*Faith Action Community for Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

\*Good Beginnings Alliance

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

Hawai'i Charter Schools Network

\*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

\*Hawai'i Education Matters

Hawai'i P-20

\*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

Kamehameha Schools

\*Kanu Hawai'i

\*Leaders for the Next Generation

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

\*Our Public School

\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

\*Parents and Children Together

Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

UH College of Education

UH Law School

United States Army

Lyla Berg

Norman Sakamoto