



**HB2875**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senate Committee on Education

March 21, 2012

1:15 p.m.

Room: 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) strongly **SUPPORTS** HB2875, which would require that assessments for students grades three through six in the Department of Education's Hawaiian Language Immersion Program (HLIP) be developed originally in the Hawaiian language, and that the Hawaiian language community be involved in the development of the assessments. HB2875 goes beyond what OHA proposed in our two bills on the same issue (HB1986 and SB2177) by including two additional grades (fifth and sixth grades).

The federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 mandates that states implement statewide assessments to measure the ability of the states and their schools to enable students to meet academic achievement standards. This assessment requirement is highly problematic for the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, which seeks to perpetuate the once-dying native language of the Hawaiian people.

Even though English is not formally introduced into Hawaiian Language Immersion Program classrooms until the fifth grade, fifth and sixth grade immersion students are still required to take the assessment in English, despite their limited exposure to formal English. Third and fourth grade immersion students are similarly disadvantaged by the assessment system, as they are required to take a translated version of the assessment, rather than an assessment created originally in the Hawaiian language to ensure accurate testing.

In the school years 2004 and 2005, third and fourth grade Hawaiian language immersion students took a translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment. Due to a number of translation problems with the test, as well as community concerns, a new assessment, called the Hawaiian Aligned Portfolio Assessment (HAPA), was developed originally in the Hawaiian language and administered to immersion students from the school years 2005-2006 through 2010-2011.

Last school year, the DOE decided to stop using the HAPA and tried once again to administer a Hawaiian translation of the Hawaii State Assessment. After immersion school officials identified a host of translation and technical issues with the translated

test, the third and fourth grade immersion students were allowed to take the HAPA in lieu of the translated assessment. Despite lingering concerns about the validity and accuracy of the translated assessment, the DOE is once again administering the translated assessment instead of an assessment developed originally in the Hawaiian language. The concerns surrounding the translated assessment have become even more pressing in light of the fact that the Board of Education recently adopted the Common Core Standards, and new assessments that align with these standards are expected to be implemented in the 2014-2015 school year.

OHA strongly advocates for the use of assessments created originally in the Hawaiian language. There are a number of inherent problems associated with translating assessments, including, but not limited to, changing the overall construct of the examination and creating inequitable challenges for students taking the translated tests. For example, an English reading test translated into Hawaiian does not necessarily measure reading proficiency in either English or Hawaiian and, therefore, does not accurately measure student achievement.

The inability of these translated assessments to accurately measure student achievement not only impacts Hawaiian language immersion students and their schools. It also works to the detriment of the state school system, which could suffer as a result of what might appear to be poor student performance on these highly questionable tests.

To address this assessment issue at the national level, Senator Daniel Akaka recently introduced the Native Culture, Language, and Access for Success in Schools Act (S.1262), which would, among other things, amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to require states to develop standards-based assessments to accommodate "diverse learning styles," which could be used in lieu of the general state assessments.

Ideally, assessments created originally in the Hawaiian language should be used not only for the third and fourth grade students who are currently being forced to take the translated assessment, they should also be used for the fifth and sixth grade immersion students who are being forced to take the assessment in English, despite their limited exposure to formal English at the time of testing. Preserving the status quo would perpetuate the marginalization and disparate treatment of our immersion students by the assessment process.

The cost to develop and implement a test originally created in the Hawaiian language has become a major issue. In its February 8, 2012 testimony on HB2875, the DOE indicated that the type of test required by HB2875 would cost \$4.7 million over two years (\$2.8 million in the first year; \$1.9 million in the second year). We find this estimated cost to be highly curious, because it is our understanding that the HAPA test cost the state less than \$300,000 to develop and administer for five years.

We urge the committee to press the DOE to explain this cost discrepancy and to provide additional information on the cost to develop and administer the current Hawaiian language translation of the HSA and the estimated cost to develop and administer the Hawaiian translation of the Smarter Balanced Assessment that will align with Common Core Standards.

We firmly believe that an assessment can be developed and implemented for far less than what the DOE estimates, either through the use of another company to develop the assessment or better utilizing the expertise of the Hawaiian language community, or both.

These assessment problems, if not resolved, could have irreparable impacts on the Department of Education, immersion students, immersion schools, the entire Hawaiian Language Immersion Program and, ultimately, the revitalization of the Hawaiian language.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to PASS HB2875. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

**Date:** 03/21/2012

**Committee:** Senate Hawaiian Affairs/Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 2875(hscr919-12) RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires reading, math, science, and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six of the department of education's Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language; requires the board HB 2875 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM of education to adopt rules establishing procedures for the development of these assessments in collaboration with the Hawaiian language community; requires status reports to the 2013 and 2014 legislatures.

**Department's Position:**  
Support

The Department of Education supports the intent of H.B. No. 2875, but suggests that rather than creating a statute, the Legislature adopt S.C.R. No. 86/S.R. No. 44, with the following clarifying amendments:

- (1) Stating that the annual assessments are for the purposes of educational accountability under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and are aligned to either the Common Core State Standards (English/Language Arts and Mathematics for grades 3 through 6) or the Hawaii Content and Performance Standards III (Science for grade 4 only) commencing in school year 2014-15;
- (2) Deleting the establishment of a formal Memorandum of Agreement with one entity, but requiring that the Department of Education invite the broader Hawaiian language community stakeholders to participate in the development and scoring of the assessments in the Hawaiian language;
- (3) Clarifying that the NCLB ancillary assessment materials and tools that are made available to students taking the general assessment are also made available in the Hawaiian language to the extent that these materials and tools can be adapted for use in the Hawaiian language; and

(4) Including in the legislative reports the estimated costs and other critical resources or agreements relating to the development of the assessments; and

(5) Expanding the Hawaiian community stakeholders to include members of the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program schools, the Hawaiian language programs at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Punana Leo, Kamehameha Schools, Hawaiian civic clubs, and other Hawaiian language community organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this measure.



UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII<sup>o</sup>  
MĀNOA

House of Representatives  
State of Hawai'i  
Re: HB2875

18 March 2012

Aloha to the Honorable Members of the House of Representatives,

Please accept this letter as a personal and professional testimony of support for HB2875, calling for educational assessment tools used in the Hawaiian language immersion schools to be generated in Hawaiian, rather than translated from existing assessments developed in English. This decision sets a critical foundation for the successful development and progress of the Hawaiian language immersion schools.

I have reviewed some of the proposed assessments submitted for use in the schools, and insisted that they not be used in the classrooms. I found them to be not only inadequate for evaluating the skill levels of students, but consistently worded in ways that were misleading or confusing for students and teachers alike. While I could fault the translators engaged to turn the English texts into Hawaiian, the problem lies with the method of creating assessment tools that does not incorporate the cultural and linguistic framework in which the students are being educated.

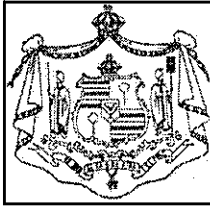
Translation, which I teach at the University of Hawai'i, is a method of transferring knowledge that can vary from the mechanical to the conceptual. The assessment tools generated to date through translation have been mechanically aligned with the English source texts, but suffer great gaps in efficacy because of problems with vocabulary, grammatical structure and cultural frame of reference.

While every point of assessment can be agreed upon for both English and Hawaiian educational settings, the framing of those aspects should be generated within the target language, which will allow these tools to be presented in authentic, culturally appropriate vocabulary and structure. Translation from one language to another will continue to be inherently problematic, and it will be the receivers of translated tools who will suffer.

The fact that a Bill like HB2875 is necessary highlights the problems that arise from lack of awareness about the potential inadequacy of translation, and the importance of creating assessment tools that are articulated with the education process. I thank you, our legislative representatives, for working to improve and foster the Hawaiian language immersion schools, and urge you to pass and implement HB2875. Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Puakea'.

Dr. Puakea Nogelmeier, Professor of Hawaiian Language  
Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge  
464 Spalding Hall, UH Mānoa, 956-3562/puakea@hawaii.edu



## **Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs**

P. O. Box 1135  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96807

Testimony of President Soulee Stroud

### **HOUSE BILL 2875 (HSCR919-12) RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM**

JOINT SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
And  
EDUCATION

Wednesday; March 21, 2012; 1:15pm; Room 225

Aloha Chairman Galuteria of the Senate Hawaiian Affairs Committee and Madam Chair Tokuda of the Senate Education Committee and members of the joint Senate committees. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs. Our organization is comprised of sixty components in all counties of Hawaii and eleven states of the continent. I speak for our membership in support of this bill that will help to level the playing field for students in the Hawaiian language immersion program.

Perpetuation of the Hawaiian language has long been a passion of the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, from the very early days when our meetings were conducted in Hawaiian, to more recent times when we were among those assisting to revive the language. We have provided scholarship aide to many Hawaiian students eager to learn the language of their kupuna.

A generation after the introduction of the Punana Leo program, those early students are now themselves teaching the language to the next generations eager to learn. We support this bill that will provide methods of assessment that can accurately measure academic achievement for students in Hawaiian language classes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Contact: [jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net)

**To:** Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair, Committee on Education

**Fr:** Nā Leo Kāko‘o Executive Board  
Parent Group of Ke Kula Kaiapuni ‘o Ānuenue

**Date:** March 21, 2012

**Subject:** Testimony in Support of House Bill 2875: Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program

On behalf of the Executive Board of Nā Leo Kāko‘o, the parent group of Ke Kula Kaiapuni ‘o Ānuenue, we stand in strong support of HB 2875 that requires reading, math, science, and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six of the department of education's Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language; requires the board of education to adopt rules establishing procedures for the development of these assessments in collaboration with the Hawaiian language community; and requires status reports to the 2013 and 2014 legislatures.

Nā Leo Kako‘o has been involved in ensuring that our children are not subjected to unfair, untested, and flawed translated standardized assessment tests since last year when the Department of Education forced these translated tests on the Hawaiian immersion program. That decision by the DOE was met with strong opposition from our Hawaiian immersion community, and we stood in opposition to that decision and provided testimony to the Board of Education last year. Despite this opposition, the DOE continues to use these tests on our children this school year.

All we are asking for is that the assessments used to measure our childrens' achievement are fair and that the process the DOE goes through to administer and create these tests is equitable. This bill will ensure that this fairness and equity is present for our children, who are the future of the perpetuation of our native language. Mahalo for your consideration.





## **Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau**

Laboratory Public Charter School

45-037 Kāne'ōhe Bay Drive

Kāne'ōhe, Hawai'i 96744

Kelepona: 808.235.9175 • Kelepa'i: 808.235.9173

E mālama 'ia ana ka mauli ola o kākou mai kēlā hanauna a i kēia hanauna

### **HB2875 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM**

#### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON Hawaiian Affairs**

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

#### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON Education**

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

**March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225**

The Local School Board of Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, K-12 Laboratory Public Charter School located in Kāne'ōhe, **strongly supports HB2875**. This bill requires the assessment of third-sixth grade students in Hawaiian Language programs to be developed in the Hawaiian Language and with the involvement of the Hawaiian language community. In addition, we request that such high stakes testing be valid, reliable and fair for all students in Hawai'i.

Last school year (2010-2011) the state reverted to a translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment. In addition to the lost meaning and context as the test was directly translated from one language to another, there were many other challenges around the validity and reliability of the test that placed our Hawaiian speaking students at a great disadvantage. Some of those challenges are described below. We have included specific examples that speak to the poor quality of the current assessment when the Hawaiian language community is not included in the development process-

- **Awkward formatting or placement of item objects**

In at least one story in the Reading assessment, the majority of words that contained a kahakō or 'okina appeared on screen with a space before and after the letter in question, creating nonsense words. In other cases, invalid characters were used to represent the Hawaiian fonts (e.g. ỹ, ü, ö).

- **Inaccurate directions that are impossible to follow**

In several questions the instructions refer the student to an object "below" but the actual object appears to the right of the question.

- **Spelling/grammar errors have been found in the assessment and the instructions.**

It should be clear that such errors in a high-stakes assessment cannot be tolerated and must be minimized. This is particularly true of Hawaiian, where the presence or absence of an 'okina or kahakō can change the meaning of a word, and a minor change in grammatical structure can change the intended meaning of a sentence.

- **Qualifications of translators/reviewers.**

We have concerns over the qualifications of people used to translate and review the HSA test items. We have seen several advertisements including ads on Craigslist — we're not convinced that Craigslist is the best way to find qualified people for Hawaiian translation or review. The elimination of classroom teachers in the process, greatly limited the pool of qualified translators.

- **English language students can choose the Text To Speech feature**

English language students have the option of having Science and Mathematics items read to them. This feature allows students who are weak readers in English to focus on the construct being assessed. But, since this feature is not available in the Hawaiian version, Hawaiian speakers must work through the written language *before* their Science or Mathematics skills can be assessed.

It was suggested that there are not enough Hawaiian language immersion students to warrant the creation of this feature but this type of bias is unfair.

It should be immediately obvious that these disparities create a disadvantage and bias against Hawaiian language speakers and violates the spirit of "reliable and valid." These challenges not only affect the individual students, they also affect a school's NCLB status in meeting adequate yearly progress. We cannot continue to be penalized for a faulty assessment. As we have experienced these issues and continue to see errors in this year's current assessment, we are asking for this additional amendment to be included in HB2875-

1. Hawaiian Language Immersion Programs be exempted from taking the translated version of the HSA (it's current state), until a valid, reliable & fair test can be developed.

We, therefore, urge the committees to pass HB2875.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

'Uo Mamo, Local School Board of Ke Kula 'o Samuel M Kamakau, LPCS

I.K.Meahilahila Kelling, Ed.D.

Kahu, Director

P.Kameha'ililani Waiiau, M.Ed.

Hope Kahu, Principal

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am a parent of two Hawaiian immersion graduates. My husband Jiggy Sai and I have been involved with the Immersion programs since its inception with the very first K-6 Hawaiian Immersion school at Waiiau Elementary Public School. We were on the steering committee that successfully negotiated with the Board of Education and the Department of Education to begin the first Hawaiian Immersion program at the elementary level. After Waiiau started its program our steering committee set its sights on establishing a K-12 Hawaiian Immersion school. That school became a reality with the opening of Anuenue School in Palolo.

We have always worked hard to ensure that our children whose families chose to educate them in the Hawaiian Language Immersion programs received the same benefits that the English learners receive. The Hawaii State Assessment works well for the English learner, but puts our Hawaiian speaking children at a disadvantage.

Let the immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth through other means and exempt them from the current version of the HSA. Let the Hawaiian Immersion program work on developing an assessment in the language of instruction.

Mr. Chair, you know Jiggy and I and what we stand for. Madame Chair, we had the pleasure of meeting you at a town hall, we live in your district. I am asking you to please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.

Jiggy & Uluwehi Sai

Parent of Hawaiian Immersion School Graduates

Past President of Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS School Board

Immersion Parent 1989-2008

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 17, 2012 10:58 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** akkealoh@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Antoinette Kanoelani Kealoha  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [akkealoh@hotmail.com](mailto:akkealoh@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/17/2012

Comments:  
I am in support of House Bill 2875. Mahalo.

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 12:16 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** kaulanad@ymail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: kaulana dameg  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [kaulanad@ymail.com](mailto:kaulanad@ymail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/19/2012

**Comments:**

As a parent of a child in the Hawaiian Language Immersion program, I support HB 2875.

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 12:21 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** onthego.travis@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Corrina Travis  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [onthego.travis@gmail.com](mailto:onthego.travis@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/19/2012

### Comments:

I am for this bill, as I am a parent of two Hawaiian immersion children. I feel that it is unfair that my children are required to take the HSAT test in English when their first language is Hawaiian. How can the state approve the teaching of our language in the schools yet lead a double standard by then requiring them to test in English. Please take careful consideration when reviewing this bill as it is the right thing for our keiki. The children should never be made to feel inadequate or stupid. Most of our immersion children are in fact very bright and excel in all aspects. They should not be penalized for their brave efforts to perpetuate their native language.

Lā 19 o Malaki, 2012

Aloha,

My name is Brandy Kalehua Kamohali'i Caceres. I am a parent of three Hawaiian language immersion students. My family is in complete support of HB 2875. My children are educated in the Hawaiian language and therefore have the right to be assessed in the Hawaiian language. An accurate measurement of my children's progress and achievements in Math, Reading and Science cannot be procured if the medium of instruction is in Hawaiian and the medium of assessment is in English. I urge you to develop a more equitable assessment by providing a Hawaiian language HSA grounded in Hawaiian cultural perspective to all students educated in Hawaiian medium education schools.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

B. Kalehua K. Caceres

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 1:57 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** hinasurfing@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Suzie Kauhane  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [hinasurfing@hotmail.com](mailto:hinasurfing@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/19/2012

Comments:



Leimomi Sing  
2949 Booth Rd.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

March 2012

To whom it may concern;

I am writing in support of HB2875, that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

Much research has been done about the transfer of thought from one language to another.

In the book written by Terence Odlin, Language Transfer: Cross linguistic influence in language learning, he writes about the transfer of thought from one language to another. According to Odlin (1989, pg. 27), when translating a thought from the first language to a second language, you must look for that same thought in the second language, which is conveyed in the first language. Often times both languages don't share the same thought or context.

I have been a teacher in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program for 7 years. I have done my Masters of Education on Curriculum Studies. I highly support HB2875 for the following reasons:

- Research shows us that complete thoughts cannot be entirely transferred from one language to another.
- A valid English assessment translated into Hawaiian does not create a valid assessment in Hawaiian language
- History of this assessment has shown us that student have difficulty understanding the translation rather than the content that is being assessed
- All students should be assessed fairly and equally. Giving Hawaiian Immersion students a translated test is an unfair testing process that penalizes Hawaiian language students whereas their English-speaking counterparts are given an assessment written in the same language the test is given in.

Please consider my testimony and vote in support of HB2875.

Thank you for your sincere consideration.

Leimomi Sing  
Dedicated Hawaiian Language Immersion Program teacher

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2012 10:12 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** peepuhala@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Iolani Kuoha  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [peepuhala@hotmail.com](mailto:peepuhala@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/19/2012

Comments:  
I support Bill HB2875.

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Education  
March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Aloha kakou,

I stand in **strong support** of HB2875. This bill should be passed so that Hawaiian immersion students statewide may receive the fair and equitable treatment that they deserve on state-mandated, high-stakes assessments.

Anyone who has studied another language knows the indescribable frustration of having a message and being unable to share it. For example, take the classic case of a traveler in need of directions; imagine the pressure this lost soul experiences as she tries to communicate her needs via a language in which she is not yet fluent. How stressful! No matter how intelligent, capable, and talented she is, if she is not fluent in the language of the land, she is at a disadvantage; she is voiceless, powerless, and utterly unable to communicate.

This is precisely the predicament that our Hawaiian language students experience every year when they are asked to show what they know in English. Our immersion students are bright, talented, and capable young people who have taken up the challenge of perpetuating the indigenous language of our state. However, when they transmit their understanding of core content, they do it best in the language of instruction. Just like the lost traveler, **our Hawaiian language students are more than able to process information if it is delivered in a recognizable system.** If the traveler knew the language of the land, then she would have no problem navigating her way. If our students knew the language of the test, then they would have no problem showing what they have learned.

Unfortunately, the Hawai'i State Assessment is currently being administered in an unfamiliar language. **English tests, and Hawaiian translations of those English tests, are not the same quality as Hawaiian tests.** Consider these examples:

- Due to ongoing repairs, you will not be able to use the elevator.
- Owing to continuous fixing, you cannot be carried in the elevator.
- Because of debts to everlasting service, you are unbearable.

These sentences are basically English translations of English. Each sentence "works." However, it is obvious that the meaning of the third sentence is quite

removed from that of the first. Consider how much further removed this sentence's meaning could be if it were translated into another language! Consider, too, having to fathom the meaning of the sentence if it was presented to you in an unfamiliar language, or one that you have just recently begun studying. Remember, Hawaiian language students do not begin their formal study of English until the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. **Clearly, the best method to assess third, fourth, fifth, and sixth graders in Hawaiian language programs is to test them in the language of instruction, without the unnecessary complications that arise from using translated tests.**

So, what is it that our Hawaiian language students need? They need fair and equitable assessments that include unfettered access to accommodations regularly provided to them in their classrooms. They need valid, reliable, and consistent instruments that measure their content knowledge rather than their translation skills. They need tests that are written in Hawaiian rather than translated from English. **They need HB2875.**

Please demonstrate your endorsement of fairness and equality by supporting the passage of this bill.

Thank you,  
Karen Victor

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 5:43 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** noelani@ahapunanaleo.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: B. Noelani Iokepa-Guerrero  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [noelani@ahapunanaleo.org](mailto:noelani@ahapunanaleo.org)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha,

I am a parent of children raised from birth and schooled strictly in the Hawaiian language and with the Hawaiian culture and ideologies as the basis of education, thinking, growth, and learning. The choice to raise and educate my children in Hawaiian has given my children (and 'ohana) the advantage over most---they learn the typical academic skills of their counterparts and gain so much more socially, linguistically, culturally, and cognitively thru increased brain development. I support HB 2875 to develop assessments originally in Hawaiian.

Mahalo,  
Noelani Iokepa-Guerrero

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

**I strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am a parent of a Hawaiian immersion child in grade 3 at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be invalid, unreliable and unjust and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being directly penalized for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.

CONCERNED PARENT,

M. Leina'ala A. Medeiros

Makua

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:54 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** lumahai23@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Megan Palama  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [lumahai23@aol.com](mailto:lumahai23@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

I have a child that attends a Hawaiian emersion school in Kauai. I am in support of this bill as it will help in the education of my children. When children are taught in a emersion setting there are taught in the actuall language NOT in a trnslation of english. There is alot lost when translating any language and Hawaiian is no exception.

Please help my children to excel in their education. Please vote yes to this Bill.

Mahalo  
Megan Palama

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 7:54 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** Waialae23@aol.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Curtis Palama  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [Waialae23@aol.com](mailto:Waialae23@aol.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

I have a child that attends a Hawaiian emersion school in Kauai. I am in support of this bill as it will help in the education of my children. When children are taught in a emersion setting there are taught in the actuall language NOT in a trnslation of english. There is alot lost when translating any language and Hawaiian is no exception.

Please help my children to excel in their education. Please vote yes to this Bill.

Curtis Palama



**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:14 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** leiilima.rapozo@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Lei Ilima Rapozo  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [leiilima.rapozo@gmail.com](mailto:leiilima.rapozo@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

I support HB2875 for the STATE ... &quot;to use assessments that are created in the Hawaiian language through consultation with the HLIP community and other Hawaiian language experts&quot;.

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:20 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** rmoody@hhsc.org  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Robert Moody  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [rmoody@hhsc.org](mailto:rmoody@hhsc.org)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha,

I am the parent of two daughters, both of whom were enrolled in the Kaiapuni program. My elder daughter graduated from the program in 2010 and is now a college student. My younger daughter has moved on with her fellow former Kaiapuni students to Kawaikini NCPCS, a Hawaiian immersion charter school. My daughters have flourished in these programs, as have many, many other children across the state.

I am writing to you to express my support for HB 2875. Our children have been educated in the Hawaiian language beginning with their pre-school years and are not formally introduced to the English language until the fifth grade. I ask that you support this Bill which would require the BOE to develop assessment tests for immersion students in the Hawaiian language. With our children's best interest at heart, please ensure that the educational needs of our immersion students continue to be met.

Your support of this Bill will reflect your support of the survival of the Hawaiian language.

Mahalo,

Robert Moody  
Anahola, HI

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:46 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** moody5150@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Melissa Moody  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [moody5150@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:moody5150@hawaiiantel.net)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

Comments:  
Aloha mai kakou,

I humbly ask for your support with this house bill.  
There are a lot of Hawaiian culture, traditions, and beliefs which have died.  
Please don't allow our language to die also.  
This is all our children have left.

I am a proud mother of a graduated and a current Hawaiian immersion student.

Mahalo a nui for all that you do for our Hawaii.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Moody

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am a parent of a Hawaiian immersion child in grade \_\_\_ at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be invalid, unreliable and unjust and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being directly penalized for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.

CONCERNED PARENT,

Luanna Peterson

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am a parent of a Hawaiian immersion child in pre-school at Punana Leo o Kawaiahao in Honolulu and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be invalid, unreliable and unjust and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being directly penalized for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.

CONCERNED PARENT,

Aaron Kahaloa  
1816 Dole St Apt 204B  
Honolulu, HI 96819

Aloha committee members,

My name is Kamoā'e Walk and I am the Luna Ho'omalū (Chairperson) for the Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i; a statewide council for the Papahāna Kaiapuni Hawai'i (DOE Hawaiian Language Immersion Program) Which provides proactive leadership, direction, and advocacy for the development and growth of its Hawaiian medium school. This council advises the state DOE directly through the Assistant Superintendent of the Office of Instructional Services branch of said Department.

On behalf of myself and the executive council of the Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i, strongly urge and encourage you to PASS HB # 2875 as a law for the State of Hawai'i.

This law will greatly improve on the quality of the educational services provided to children of Hawai'i.

Thanks to each of you for your time and service to our community.

Me ka oia'i'o maoli,

Kamoā'e Walk  
Luna Ho'omalū, 'Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 10:51 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** kuaheaae@kamakau.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: kuaheaae green  
Organization: Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS  
E-mail: [kuaheaae@kamakau.com](mailto:kuaheaae@kamakau.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha, I support HB2875. Assessments administered to students in grades 3 through 6 in the Hawaiian language immersion program should be developed originally in the Hawaiian language. These assessments should be created in the language of instruction. mahalo

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Chair Representatives Brickwood Galuteria  
Senate Committee on Education

**E-MAILED**  
3/20/12

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Aloha mai kākou

'O wau 'o Kāiulākeke Kōi Inoa,  
Aia au ma ka Papa 4.  
He haumāna au ma ke  
kula 'o Kama'ehu.

Ua hana au i ka  
hō'ike H.S. a me mānoa au  
hūkau loa ka hō'ike. No  
ka mea ua hō'ike au  
ka hema hema o ka 'ōkē.

Kāko'o au i ka Pila H. B. No  
2875 no ka mea me ka i ka  
"ho'oponopono ana i ka hō'ike. A e hiki  
ia 'uhane ke 'ā'āpo i ka  
hō'ike.

Me ke aloha,  
Kāiulākeke



**E-MAILED**  
3/20/12

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Chair Representatives Brickwood Galuteria  
Senate Committee on Education

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

1. Aloha mai kākou,

ʻO Wau ʻo Paikoa...  
He ʻewalu oʻu makahiki...  
Aia au ma ka Pāpa 3.  
Noho au ma Punaluʻu...  
Aia au ma Ke Kula

ʻo Samuel M. Kamaʻehu

Kākoʻo au i kēia Pila H.B.No.  
2875 nō ka mea ʻolēʻo hawaii i au.  
a makemake au i ka Hoʻike Hawaii;

Meke aloha,  
Paikoa Kamaʻehu-Oana

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Chair Representatives Brickwood Galuteria  
Senate Committee on Education

E-MAILED  
3/20/12

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Aloha mai kākou,

ʻŌ wau ʻŌ Maluhia, Eilwa ʻŌ mākaʻihik  
Hele au i ke kula o Samuel  
Manaiakalani Kamakau, Aia au ma ka  
Papa 4. ʻŌ au ka hiapo ma ka  
ʻōhana.

Iāu i hana ai ka hōʻike H.S.A,  
manaʻo au pāʻāʻiki no ka meaʻano  
huikau nā huaʻōleto.

kākoʻo au i kēia Pila H.B. no 2875,  
no ka mea make make au i ka  
hōʻike Hawaii a ʻāʻole huikau  
ia au.

Me ke aloha,

Maluhia Hirahana

Kaiewa  
HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Chair Representatives Brickwood Galuteria  
Senate Committee on Education

E-MAILED  
3/20/12

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Aloha mai kākou,  
ʻO wau ʻo Kaiewa. 8 oʻu makahiki.  
No ho au ma kāneʻōhe, koʻu ānupuaʻa  
ʻo ʻOahu, ma ka papa 3 au.

kākoʻo au i kēia pila H.B. No  
2875 no ka mea makemake au i ka  
hōʻike ma ka ʻōlelo Hawaiʻi no ka mea  
hiki iā ʻu i ke maopopo a ʻole  
huikau au. He mea nui ka  
hoʻoponopono ʻana i ka hoʻike  
no i ka mea pili ka hoʻike Hawaiʻi  
ike kula kaiaupuni ʻo kamakani  
pili ka ʻōlelo Hawaiʻi iā makou  
ame nā kūpuna.

Me kē Aloha,  
Kaiewa

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am the parent of Hawaiian immersion children in grade 4 at Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Pu'ohala and in pre-school at Punana Leo o Kamakau both in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be **invalid, unreliable and unjust** and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being directly penalized for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

**Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.**

Sincerely,

Juanita Wolfgramm

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am the parent of Hawaiian immersion children in grade 4 at Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Pu'ohala and in pre-school at Punana Leo o Kamakau both in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be **invalid, unreliable and unjust** and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being directly penalized for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

**Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.**

Sincerely,

Mauiakalana Wolfgramm

03/20/12

To: Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

From: `Iwalani Ka`auwai-Herrod, makua

RE: HB2875

Aloha e na Senator Galuteria a me Ryan,

I am in support of this Bill, wholeheartedly! In school, many of our keiki are learning `olelo makuahine, our mother tongue. My keiki attend the Kawaikini New Century Public Charter School on Kaua`i and this kula follows the same curriculum as the Kaiapuni schools. This Bill will not only give a more accurate assessment of our children's academic abilities but also demonstrates that our State really does value the Hawaiian Language and it truly is one of the official languages of this State (and not just on paper).

If not for Ke Kula Kaiapuni, my seventeen year old and sixteen year old daughters would not be fluent in `olelo Hawai`i. My parents did not `olelo Hawai`i when we were growing up. Three out of eight of us decided to learn when we attended the University of Hawaii Manoa and Kaua`i Community College campuses. But, I do not speak fluently like my keiki are able to. I am not around it all the time as they are which definitely is a factor in keeping the language alive. We need to keep our language and culture alive for now and the future. Our keiki are our future.

Mahalo for your support of this Bill!

`O wau me ka ha`aha`a,  
`Iwalani Ka`auwai-Herrod, makua

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am the grandmother of Hawaiian immersion children in grade 4 at Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Pu'ohala and in pre-school at Punana Leo o Kamakau both in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be **invalid, unreliable and unjust** and set our students and schools at a great **disadvantage**. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being **directly penalized** for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

**Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.**

Sincerely,

Susan Kanehailua

March 20, 2012

Aloha Kakou,

My name is Martina Kamaka and I am writing in support of HB2875. I am a proud Hawaiian immersion school parent and a physician faculty member at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. As an educator, I am acutely aware of the importance of accurately testing the abilities of our young people.

Unfortunately, testing frequently determines the fate of our children with respect to their future opportunities. We all know that testing does not always reflect the student's true abilities. (I have many colleagues that have struggled because of being "poor test takers". As a speaker of a foreign language (German), I also know that it is difficult to directly translate certain ideas and expressions into another language. If it is so critical to accurately test our children's true abilities (to the best extent possible) and, considering that much can be lost or misinterpreted in translation, don't our children deserve to be tested in the language in which they are being taught? In so, then those tests need to be developed in that language in order to accurately capture the concepts and nuances that might be lost or misinterpreted in translation. Let's make sure that our children involved in the Hawaiian Immersion schools are given a fair test that reflects their abilities. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify and I welcome any questions you may have. I can be reached at 587-8574.

Mahalo,

Martina Kamaka, MD



**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

I **strongly support** HB2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

I am a Makua of a Hawaiian immersion child in grade **papa 'elua**, at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be invalid, unreliable and unjust and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage. Because of the quality of the translations, immersion schools are being directly penalized for departmental decisions that affect our NCLB school status.

I am asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

'Ohana Jones

Haunani, Ahtoo, Keawa'iki,

**HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**  
**HB 2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na mā ua nō e kā ko' o nui iā HB 2875, e haku i nā loiloi mā kau ' ō lelo ' oe, makemakika ' oe, ' epekema ' oe, a me nā loiloi ' ē a' e ma o ka ' ō lelo makuahine no nā haumā na mai ka papa ' ekolu a i ka papa ' eono.

We **strongly support** HB 2875 that requires reading, math, science and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six in the Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

He mau kumu ' ō lelo makuahine mā ua ma ka Papa Kupukupu, papa 1-2, ma Ke Kula ' o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS ma Kā ne' ohe a he pono ka loiloi kū pono e like ho' i me nā keiki ' ō lelo Pelekania. He loiloi kū pono ' ole, ' oia ' i' o ' ole ka ' unuhi wale ' ana iā Hawai' i State Assessment (HSA). ' A' ole o ko ' oukou mau ' ao' ao kai ' ewa' ewa?

We are Hawaiian immersion teachers of grades 1 and 2, at Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS in Kaneohe and feel that they deserve the same quality state assessment as afforded to their English learner counterparts. The Hawaiian translated version of the Hawaii State Assessment has proven to be invalid, unreliable and unjust and set our students and schools at a great disadvantage.

E hō ' ike ana i kā lā kou holomua ma o nā loiloi ' ē a' e a e ho' oku' u mai e hana ' ole iā HSA a kū pono a ' oia ' i' o ka loiloi e haku ' ia ana ma o ke kuana' ike Hawai' i a ka ' ō lelo makuahine.

We are asking that immersion schools be allowed to show academic growth of our students through other means and be exempted from the current version of the HSA until a valid and reliable assessment can be originally created in the language of instruction.

E ' ae iā HB 2875. Mahalo i ka ho' olono ' ana mai.  
Please pass HB2875. Mahalo for your time.

Na mā ua me ka ha' aha' a,  
Concerned teachers,

Claire Ann Kalaunuola Domingo  
Joy Gallaher

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u nō e kako'o nui iā HB 2875  
e haku i nā lailai mākau 'ōlelo 'ōe,  
makemakika 'ōe, a me nā lailai 'ē  
a'ē ma o ka 'ōlelo makuahine  
no nā haumāna mai ka papa  
'ekou a i ka papa 'eono. He pua  
'ōlelo makuahine wau ma ka Papa  
Kupukupu, Papa 2, ma ke Kula 'o  
Samuel M. Kamakau LPCS ma  
Kāne'ōhe a he pono ka lailai kūpono

e like ho'i me nā keiki 'ōlelo  
Pelekania. He loiloi kūpono 'ole, 'o  
ia i'ō 'ole ka 'unuhi wale 'ana  
iā Hawaii State Assessment.  
A'ole o ko 'oukou mau 'ao'ao  
ka i'ewa'ewa? E hō'ike ana i kā  
mākou holomua ma o nā loiloi  
'ē'ē a e hō'oku'u mai e  
hana 'ole iā HSA a kūpono  
a 'o ia i'ō ka loiloi e haku ia  
ana ma o ke kuana'ike  
Hawai'i a ka 'ōlelo makuahine.

E 'ae iā HB 2875. Mahalo  
nō kou ho'olono 'ana mai.  
Nā'u me ka ha'aha'a,  
Mālie Lyman

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u nō e kākō'o nui iā HB2875  
e haku i nā loiloi mākau'ōlolo'oe make  
makika'oe, 'epekema'oe a me nā  
loiloi 'ē a'ē maokā'ōlolo makuahine  
hōnā haumāna mai kapāpā'ekolu a'i  
kapāpā'vono. He pua'ōlolo makuahine  
waumaka Pāpā Kupukupu. pāpā / ma  
Ke Kula'ō Samuel M. Kamakau PCS ma  
Kane'ohē a he pono kalo iloi kūpono  
likeho'imēnā kēiki'ōlolo Patekani'ōlolo iloi kūpono  
e hō'i'ōlolo'oe a me nā loiloi kūpono

ole, oia i ole ka unuhi wale 'ana ia

Hawaii State Assesment. A'ole.

o ko'oukou mau 'ao'ao kai e wa'e wa?

E hō'ike ana i kā mākou holomua

ma o nā biloi e a'e a e ho'oku'umai e

hana'ole ia HSA a kūpono a oia i'o

kaloiloi whaku 'ia ana ma o ka kuandika

Hawai'i a ka 'olelo makua hine.

E'ae ia HB 2875. Mahalo i ka

ho'olono'ana mai.

Nāu me ka ha'aha'a,

Honi Maddela Tengah Lum Lung

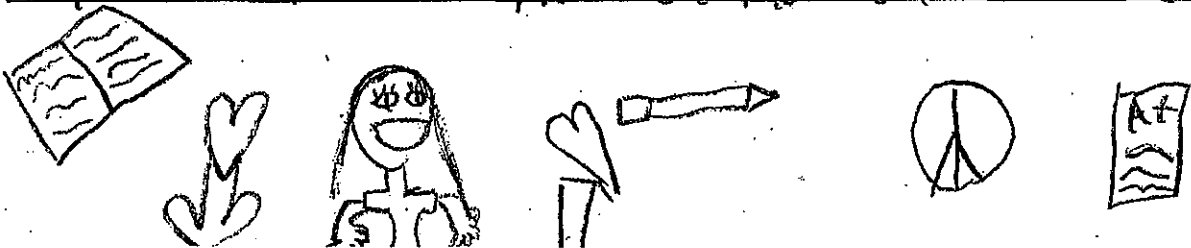
HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225



Na'u no e kakoo nui ia HB 2875  
e haku i na loiloi makuu olelo oe,  
makemakika oe, epekema oe,  
a me na loiloi 'e ae ma ka  
'olelo makuahine no na haumana  
mai ka papa ekua ai ka papa  
'ono. He pua 'olelo makuahine wau  
ma ka Papa Kupukupu, papa ma  
ke kula o Samuel M. Kanakau  
LPCS ma Kaneohe a he Pono



ka loilei kūpono e like hōi me  
nā keiki olelo pelekania. He loilei  
kūpono ole 'ōia'io ole ka  
'unuhi wale ana iā Hawai'i  
State ASSESSment

'Aole o ko oukou mau 'ā'ā  
kai 'ewa'ewa?

E hōi'ke ana i kā mākou holomua  
ma o nā loilei 'ē a'ē ae

hō'kūu mai e hana ole iā HSA  
a kūpono a 'ōia'io katoile

naku ia ana ma o kekua'ā'ike  
Hawai'i a ka 'ōlelo mākuahine  
E 'ae iā HB 2875. Mahalo i ka  
hō'lonohia ana mai. Naku me ka  
ha'aha'a, Naupaka Tomo Saitis

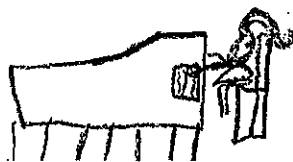


HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u no e ka ko'o nui HB  
2875, e haku i na loioimaka  
lo'oe, maki maki ka'oe i epaki ma  
ame na loioi ce a'e ma  
o ka'olelo makuahine na nahaumana  
mai ka papa'ekolu ai ka papa'eno  
He pu'olelo makuahine wau maki  
Papa kupa, kupa pap | ma le lula  
o Samuel M. Kamakau LPS ma  
Kane'ohē a he pono ka loioi



E hō'ike ana i kā mākou hōdomea  
ma o nā loiloi e a'e ho'oku'umai  
ehana 'ole ia HSAaku pono  
'oia 'o ka loiloi e haku 'ia ana  
ma o ke kua nā'ike Hawaiiaka  
'ōlelo mākuahine.

E 'ae ia HB 2875. Mahalo i ka  
hocolono 'ana mai.

Na'u me ka haka haka, hō'ike.

Hi'i'ani Cleaver.

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u nō e kākō nui iā HB 2875  
e haku i nā loiloi mākou 'ōlelo 'oe,  
makemakika 'oe, epekema 'oe,  
aneme nā loiloi 'ē a'e ma  
o ka 'ōlelo makuahine no na  
haumana mai ka papa 'ekolu a i  
ka papa 'eono. He pua 'ōlelo  
makuahine wau maka  
papa kupukupu, papa 1, ma kē kula  
o Samuel M. Kamakau LPCS ma

Kāne'ōhe a he Pono ka loiloi  
kūpono e like hōi me nā keiki  
ōlelo Pelekania. He loiloi kūpono  
'ole, oia 'io 'ole ka unuhi wale  
'ana iā Hawaii State Assessment  
'Aole o ko 'oukou mau 'ā'ā'ā  
hai 'ewo'ewa? E hō'ike ana i  
kā mākou holomua ma o nā  
loiloi 'ē a'ē a'ē hō'oku'u mai  
e hana 'ole iā HSA a kūpono  
a 'oia 'io ka loiloi e haka  
'ia ana ma o ke kuana'ike

Hawaii" a kia 'ōlelo makuahine.

E 'ae ia HB 2875. Mahalo i kou

hoolono 'ana mai.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a,

Keaka Solomon

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u nō e kōko'o nui iā HB  
2875 e haku i nā loia mākau  
'ōlelo 'oe, make makika 'oe,  
'epekema 'oe, a me nā loia  
'ēa 'e ma o ka 'ōlelo makuahine  
ho nā haumāna mai ka papa  
'mai ka papa 'ekolu a ka papa eono  
wau ma ka papa kupukupu papa  
ma ke kula o Samuel M. Kamakau  
LPS ma kāne'onei he pono ka

lolelo kupo no. E ho'ike ana i ka

makou holomua

ma o na loilei 'ea'ea e ho'oku'u mai

e hana ole ia HSA akupono

'oia 'i'oka loilei e haku'ia ana

ma o ke kuana'ike Hawaii'aka

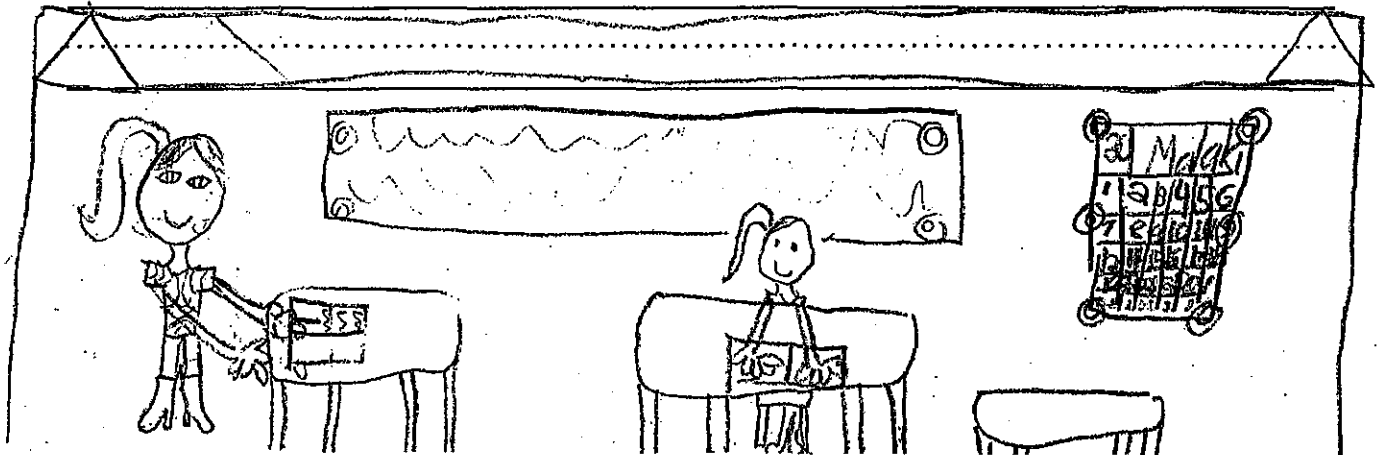
'olelo makuahine.

E 'ae ia HB 2875. Mahalo i ka

ho'olono 'ana mai.

Nu'u me ka ha'ahala, Ewelei'ula Wong

Ewelei'ula Wong



HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

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Na'u nō e kākō'o nui iā HB 2875.  
e haku i nā loiloi mākau 'ōlelo 'oe,  
makemakika 'oe, epekema 'oe, a me nā  
loiloi 'ē a'e maka 'ōlelo makuahine no  
nā haumāna mai ka papa 'ekolu a i ka  
papa 'eono.

He pua 'ōlelo makuahine wau ma ka Papa  
Kupukupu, papa 2, make Kula 'o Samuel  
M. Kamakau PCS ma Kāne'ōhe a he  
pono ka loiloi kūpono e like ho'i me



nā keiki 'ōlelo Pelekania. He loiloi  
kūpono 'ole. 'oia i'ō 'ole ka unuhiwale  
'ana iā Hawaii State ASSESSMENT.  
'A'ole o ko 'oukou mau 'ao 'ao kai 'ewa'ewa  
? E hō'ike ana i kā mākou holomua  
ma o nā loiloi 'ē a'e a e hō'oku'u  
mai e hana 'ole i ka HSA a kūpono a  
'oia i'ō ka loiloi e haku 'ia anama  
o ke kuama'ike Hawaii i ka 'ōlelo  
makuahine. E 'ae iā HB 2875. Mahalo  
i kou hōlonō 'ana mai. Na'u me ka ha'ahia  
Keonana Maddela Tangan Lum Lung

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u nō e kōko'o nui iā HB  
2875, e haku i nā loiloi mākau  
ōlelo 'oe, makemakika 'oe, 'epekema  
'oe, a me nā loiloi 'ē a'e ma ka  
ōlelo makuahine no nā haumana  
mai ka papa 'Ekolu a i ka papa  
Eono. He pua ōlelo makuahine  
wau ma ka papa Kupukupu,  
papa 2, Ma ke kula o Samuel  
M. Kamakau LPCS ma Kane'ōhe

a he pono ka loiloi kūpono  
e like ho'i me nā keiki ʻōlelo  
pelekania. He loiloi kūpono ʻole, ʻoia  
ʻio ʻole ka unuhi wale ana iā  
Hawaii State Assessment. Aole o  
ko ʻoukou mau ʻaoʻao kai  
ʻewa'ewa? E hō'ike ana i kā  
mākou holomua ma o nā  
loiloi ʻē a'e a e ho'oku'u mai  
e hana ʻole iā HSA a kūpono  
a ʻoia ʻio ka loiloi haku  
ia ana ma o ke kuana'ike  
Hawaii a ka ʻōlelo makuahine. E  
ʻae iā HB 2875. Mahalo i ka ho'olono  
ana mai. Na'u me ka ha'aha'a,  
Hali'ala'ala; Craig-Nalae

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

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Na'u nō e kako'o nui ia HB 2875  
e haku i nā lailai mākau 'ōlelo 'ōe,  
makemakika 'ōe, a me nā lailai 'ē  
a'ē ma o ka 'ōlelo makuahine  
no nā haumāna mai ka papa  
'ekou a i ka papa 'eono. He pua  
'ōlelo makuahine wau ma ka Papa  
Kupukupu, Papa 2, ma ke Kula o  
Samuel M. Kamakau LPCS ma  
Kāne'ohe a he pono ka lailai kūpono

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u no e kākōō nui ia HB 2875  
e haku i nā loiloi mākau 'ōlelo he,  
make makika 'e epekēnia 'ōra me nā  
loiloi 'e o'le mā aka 'ōlelo makūchihē no  
nā haumana mai ka papa 'ekolu ai kapapa  
sona 'e pua 'ōlelo makūchihē wai mā  
ka papa kupukapu, papa 2 make kūla'o Samu'e  
M kamaka LPCS ma kāne 'he a he  
pono ka loiloi kūpono elike hōi me nā kaka  
'ōlelo Pelekaniā / te loiloi kūpono elike hōi

menā keiki'ōlelo Pelekania. He loiloi  
kupono ole 'oia 'i'o 'ole ka 'unuhi' wale'ana  
iā Hawaii State Assessment.

'Able o ka wākou mau 'ao'ao ka i'ē wa'ewa?

E hō'ike ana i kā mākou holo mua

mao nā loiloi 'ē a'ē a e hō'oku'ū mai

e hana 'ole ia HSA a kupono a

'oia 'i'o ka biloi e haku'ia a māmao

ke kua'ana i ke Hawaii ia ka'ōlelo ma kua'ine.

Eae iā HB2875 Mahalo i ka hō'ona ana

mao Nā'ime ka hō'ona ana,

Lā'ākea Hirahara

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

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Ngāu nō e kākoo nui iā HB2875  
e haku i nā loilo mākou ōlelo 'oe,  
makemakika 'oe, 'epekema 'oe, iā me  
nā loilo 'ē a'e ma o ka 'ōlelo  
makuahine no nā haumāna mai ka  
papa 'ekolu a i ka papa 'eono.  
He pua 'ōlelo makua wau ma ka  
Papa kupukupu, papa 2, makekula  
'o Samuel M. Kamakau L.P.C.S. ma  
Kāne'ohē a he pono ka loilo kūpono ole

e like ho'i me nā keiki 'ōlelo  
Pelekania. He loiloī kūpono 'o  
'oia 'i' o 'ole ka 'unuhi wale 'ana  
'iā Hawaii State Assessment.  
'A'ole o ko 'ou kou mau ao'ao kai  
'ewalewa? E hō'ike ana i ka mākou  
holomua mā o nā loiloī 'ē'ē a e  
ho'oku'umai e hana'ole iā HSA a  
kūpono a 'oia ka loiloī e haku'ia  
ana mā o ke kuana'ike Hawaii'i  
a ka 'ōlelo mākuahine. E 'ae iā HB  
2875 Mahalo'ika ho'olono 'ana mai



Na'ume ka ha'aha'a, Me ke aloha

Ke'alahilani. Stant,

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na'u no e kākō'o nui iā HB2875  
e haku i nā loiloi mākou iōtelo ā e  
make māka o e i e pūka mā o e, ma  
a me nā loiloi ē'ā māka iōtelo mākuahine n  
nā haumana mai ka papa ekolu ai ka papa  
elono. He pua iōtelo mākuahine wau  
ma ka papa Kupu Kupu papa 1,  
ma ke kuta o Samuel M.  
Kamakaui, LPCS ma kāne'ōhe a  
he pono ka loiloi kūpono e like hōi me

nā keiki ʻōlelo Pōlekaʻnia. He

loiloi kūpono ʻole, oia iʻo ʻole ka

ʻunuhi wale ʻana iā Hawaii

State Assessment. Aole o ko

ʻoukou mau ʻaʻoʻo kai ʻewarowa?

E hōike ana i kā mākou holomua  
ma o nā loiloi e a'e a e hōoku'umai  
e hana ole iā HSA a kūpono a oia  
iō ka loiloi e haku ia ana ma o  
ke kuana'ike Hawaii a ka  
ōlelo mauahine. E ao iā HB  
2875 Mahalo i ka ho'olono  
ana mai. Nāu me ka ha'aha'a,  
Keona Po'ouahi-M.

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Ma'u nō e kakoo hui iā HB2875  
e haku i mā loiloi mākou'ōlelo'oe  
make makika'oe'e peke ma'oe a menā loiloi'ēne  
ma ka'ōlelo makuahine nōhā hāumāna ma  
Maika Papa'ekolu a ka Papa'eone. He pua'ōlelo  
makuahine wau ma ka Papa kuru kuru Papa make ku  
Ia'o Samuel M. Kamakau LPCS ma kāne he  
ahe pono ka loiloi kūpono e ike hōi menā keiki'ōlelo  
pelekania. He loiloi kūpono'ole'ōia'io'ole ka unuhi  
wale'ana iā Hawaii State Assessment. A'ole o

ko'oukou mau'āāo karewāe wa? E hōi ke'āhāi ka  
makou holomua māo nalo i loie'āe'āe hō'oku  
maie hana'ole iā HSA a kā Pōhō'ōi a'ō ka  
loioie haku'ā'āna māo ke kuanāi ke hawai'i  
aka'ōlelo makuahine E'ae iā HB 2875 Maha  
loikou hōloho'ānāmāi. Nāu me kā hō'āhā'ā

Lemao Tavalii

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 1:57 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** clintonoschultz@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Clinton Schultz  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [clintonoschultz@hotmail.com](mailto:clintonoschultz@hotmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

Comments:  
March 20, 2012

Aloha Mai Kakou,

I am submitting testimony in support of House Bill 2875 of creating a Hawaiian Language Based Test for Immersion School Students. I strongly support this bill because it allows our children to be tested in a more appropriate manner than before. Because Hawaiian is an Official Language of Hawaii, it is critical, fair and appropriate that those children who attend schools that preserve the language be able to test in their Mother Tongue. A test written in and via the Hawaiian Language and through Hawaiian Medium will represent the best platform and opportunities for our children to show what they are truly capable of and understand. What they learn in Hawaiian and at Hawaiian Immersion Schools is comparable to any language. Furthermore, the test they take needs to reflect the point of view that is understood by the children and not a test that mirrors Western Thoughts and perspectives, a view that they are not exposed to until later on in their schooling.

Having tests that are written via a simple translation from English does not carry the same interpretations and expression of what is intended versus what is implied. The very essence of any language cannot simply be translated, but instead must be created from the language base itself. By allowing a "new" Hawaiian Test to be created from a Hawaiian perspective, will be the most beneficial for all parties involved. The children will perform and the scores will help Hawaii be that much stronger in data and test representation when compared the rest of the United States.

Hence, having a test created in and through the Hawaiian Language will make much more sense to our children because they will be able to relate to not only the language, but also the context of how the test is designed and what the test is actually testing. The newly formed test will allow for our children to comprehend the intricacies of the test at a higher level and with much more confidence. HB2875 will help our children grow to where they need to be and test in a more relaxed, comfortable and appropriate atmosphere.

I truly appreciate your support for HB 2875 and I ask you to consider the aforementioned testimony. Mahalo for your time and consideration!!!

Sincerely,  
Clinton Schultz

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 2:15 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** ksfrhi13@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Fantaysha Shimooka-Faufata  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [ksfrhi13@yahoo.com](mailto:ksfrhi13@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

### Comments:

Aloha e na Kenekoa a me na Hale o na Makaanana, O wau 'o Kau'i Shimooka. Hele au i Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Anuenue, ma ka papa umikumakahi au.

Aloha Senators and House of Representatives. My name is Kau'i Shimooka. I attend Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Anuenue which is a hawaiian emergent school, Im in eleventh grade. Here at Anueneu we speak hawaiian all day, we're taught in hawaiian and we also get our tests in hawaiian. Hawaiian language is one thing we cherish in this school. I open with this because I am here to support the house bill 2875. I support this bill because since we are in an emergent school and we are taught mostly in hawaiian when we get these HSA tests we do have a hard time really understanding what some of the questions are asking. Especially our lower grades since hawaiian is like their main language besides english its also very hard for them to understand what their reading. Even though emergent schools are hawaiian schools we do want to represent our schools greatly and we also want to represent our state in a positive way and by translating the emergent schools HSA tests in hawaiian it would give the students and the teachers here great gratitude and confidence that we are able to represent our school and state in a positive way. thank you.

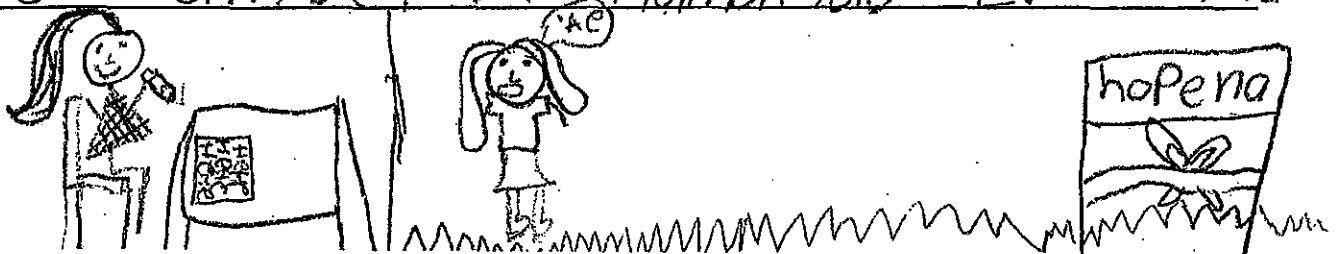


HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Ma'u nō e hāho'o nui iā HB  
2875, e haku i nā loiloi mākou  
'ōlelo 'oe, Makemakika 'oe, 'epokema  
'oe, a me nā loiloi 'ē a'e mo  
ka 'ōlelo mākuahine no nā  
hau māna mai ka papa 'etolu a  
i ka papa 'anohe pua 'ōlelo  
mākuahine wau ma ka Papa  
Kupu Kupu, papa 2, ma ke kula  
'o Samuel M. Kamakau LPCS ma



Kāne'ohē a he pono ka loiloi  
hūpono e like hō'i me nā  
keiki 'ōlelo Pelekania. He loiloi  
hūpono 'ole, 'oia 'i'ō 'ole ka unuhi  
wale 'ana iā Hawaii State  
Assessment. 'A'ole o ho 'oukou  
mau 'a'āo kai 'ewa'ewa? E  
hō'ike ana i kā mākou hōpono  
ma o nā loiloi 'ē a'e a'e  
ho'oku'u mai e hana 'ole iā  
HSA a kūpono a 'oia 'i'ō ho  
loiloi e haku 'ia ana ma o he  
kuana'ike Hawaii a ka 'ōlelo  
Mahuahine. E a'e iā HB 2875 Mahab i  
ka ho'ōpono 'ana mai Na'u me ka ha'aha'a,  
Hiki anali'a Wong.

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

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NA'u hoi kakoo nu i HB 2875

Eha kua i na loiz loi Ma kau'olelo

oe o me na haumana ma ka papa

ekola ai ka papa e oho ai

He pua'olelo Ma ka hine wau

Ma ka papa kapukapu papa 2

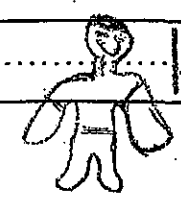
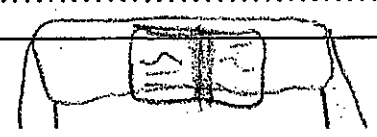
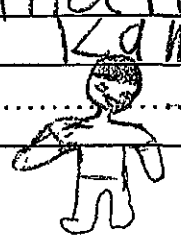
Ma ke kula o Samu e katoitai

Kapono e like hoi me na keiki'olelo

Pelekani a He loitai ku pono ole

Oia io ole ka u na hihialeana

iā Hawaii State Assessment  
Aole a kou mau ana i ka lewa e wa  
Ehō! ke ana, ka ma kou holomu a  
Mao na loilo i e ae a e hōkū  
Māi e hā o te i ka HSA a kāpono  
Oia iō ka loilo i e haku i a hā mō  
Ke kua nāi ke Hawaii a ka o te  
Maka ahi ne. E ai iō HBZRTG  
Mahalo i kou hōi o hō ana māi  
Nā meka hā ānā,  
Kama hāo SAT SOLA



Kili wehi

HB2875 Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

March 21, 2012 1:15pm Conference Room 225

Na u nō kāko'o nui iā HB2875

ehaku i nā loiloi makuā o lēlo'e.

ma kōmāhikā o e'ē p'ē ke mā o e'ē mi

ame nā loiloi'ē a'ē ma

ōka'ōlelo makuahine nō nā hāu māha

maika papa'ekp/kaika papa'eo ho.

He papa'ōlelo makuahine wa amaka

papa kapa kapa papa lōma ke kala

osamuel Maikamaka u LPCS ma

kane'ōhe ahepono ka loiloi kāpō o e'ē tike

he me hā ke i ki'ōlelo pēle kāpō o lēlo'e  
kūpō nō o lēlo'e iā iō'ōleka'uhā hāle'ā hā iā Hawaii  
State Assessment o lēlo'e o lēlo'e o lēlo'e  
ka i e wa e wa.

Ehōi ke ana i ka mākauholomaa  
mao nā loio i'ō e ae ho'oku'ū mā  
ehana ole i ka H S A a kō pono a  
'oia i'ō ka loio i ehaku'ia ana  
mao kekua nā i ke Hawai'i i ka  
'ōlelo ma kaha i ne 7 b.

E'ae i ā HB 28 Mahalo i ka

ho'olo no'ana mā i.

Ma'ua meka hā hā a.

tekoa Froning

Malaki 20,2012

Dear Hawaiian/Education Committee,

HB 2875 requires the state to no longer use translated tests for Kaiapuni schools, but rather assessments that are created in the Hawaiian language through consultation with the HLIP community and other Hawaiian language experts.

This makes practical and reasonable sense to me.

Charter schools are publicly funded, supported by legislative mandate and guided by three principals- that they are free to all students who enroll, that they operate autonomously and they use new, innovative approaches to educational instruction.

I ask this Committee to support the legislative mandate of Charter schools in Hawai'i, especially the Kaiapuni schools, by supporting Hawaiian language assessments for Hawaiian language students.

I request that this Committee give our Hawaiian language immersion children a chance to succeed with appropriate testing.

There are enough Hawaiian language experts in Hawai'i nei to create and begin this level of testing. After this is done, then there will grow more Hawaiian language experts. Imagine that?!

Nothing to fear. . . Diversity is one of many 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Benchmarks & Standards.

Mahalo for the Committee's time and service,

Mālama pono,

Natalie "Hiwahiwa" Joyce-Maeda

Staff- Kawaikini NCPCS, Staff-Wilcox Elementary School, kōkua- Pūnanaleo preschool

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 8:54 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** kauai aloha4me@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Jody Galinato  
Organization: Kawaikini Charter School Parent  
E-mail: [kauai aloha4me@gmail.com](mailto:kauai aloha4me@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

### Comments:

It is so important to support the Hawaiian Language Program by rewarding the students with grades in the language that they study. The most accurate way to test and gauge progress is to test in the manner in which they were taught. Due to the fact that funding and recruitment are affected by test scores there needs to be a fair format to evaluate the students and teachers performances. Our students have the opportunity to learn cultural practices, family values and respect in addition to being bi-lingual, please support our keiki. Malama Pono!



**To:** Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice-Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair, Committee on Education

**Fr:** C. Baba Yim, Mākua, Ka Papahana Kaiapuni

**Date:** March 21, 2012

**Subject:** Testimony in Support of HB2875  
Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program

Aloha Kākou. My name is Christopher Yim. I have been working in Hawaiian Immersion education for almost 15 years. I have taught both elementary and middle school for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program, and am currently a faculty member of the University of Hawaii at Mānoa preparing teachers to teach in Hawaiian Immersion classrooms through graduate level courses that are taught through the Hawaiian language.

But my most important teaching position is as a father of two students of Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'O Ānuenuē, Hawaiian Language Immersion School. One is a senior in high school preparing to graduate, and the other a third grader. My wife is also a teacher at Ānuenuē who has been teaching for over 15 years. We are a family committed to the Hawaiian Language and Ka Papahana Kaiapuni.

I submit this testimony in support of HB2875 as it is a step in the right direction towards educational equity for families who choose the right to educate their children in the native language of these islands.

One of the biggest challenges facing Ka Papahana Kaiapuni (Hawaiian Language Immersion Program) is that the assessments do not match the language of instruction (instruction-Hawaiian, assessments-English). Since funding and other supports are directly tied to the results of these assessments it causes problematic shifts in curriculum and instruction away from the original vision, mission and programmatic goals of Ka Papahana Kaiapuni.

As a band-aid type of remedy to this situation, the Hawai'i State DOE tried on its own to translate the English assessments and pass them off as valid. Expert testimony at Board of Education meetings at that time established that the use of any assessment that has been translated from the language that it was originally created in invalidates its results. Also at this time, while questions of validity lingered in the air, we asked the DOE about how the test would be piloted, and received two different, and problematic answers: 1) There was no need to do pilot testing since it had already been done for the English version of the test and,

2) The version the students would be given after the DOE's translations were "fixed" would serve as a pilot and scores received from that very same test would count towards the Adequate Yearly Progress score of their schools.

HB1986 calls for assessments for HLIP 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders to be created in Hawaiian, the language of instruction. This is something that Ka Papahana Kaiapuni families have been trying to get the DOE to do for years, with no success. It is also important that members of various role groups who may have necessary language and cultural expertise be allowed to participate in the creation of these assessments where they have not in the past.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your time and reiterate my support for HB2875. Hopefully this will be the beginning of a movement to more equitable and genuine assessments for all grades within Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, which truly seeks to inform classroom instruction, thereby increasing student success and not just carelessly chasing federal dollars as the DOE aimlessly races to the top continually keeping Hawaii's native children left behind.

C. Babā Yim,  
Makua (Parent), Ka Papahana Kaiapuni

**To:** Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice-Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair, Committee on Education

**Fr:** Roblyn Kehau Camara, Mākua, Ka Papahana Kaiapuni

**Date:** March 20, 2012

**Subject:** Testimony in Strong Support of HB2875  
Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program

Aloha Kākou. My name is Kehau Camara. I have been working in Hawaiian Immersion education for more than 15 years. I have taught both elementary and middle school for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

But my most important teaching position is as a mother of two students of Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'O Ānuenuē, Hawaiian Language Immersion School. One is a senior in high school preparing to graduate, and the other a third grader. My husband is also an educator in the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. We are a family committed to the Hawaiian Language and Ka Papahana Kaiapuni.

I submit this testimony in support of HB2875 as it is a step in the right direction towards educational equity for families who choose the right to educate their children in the native language of these islands.

One of the biggest challenges facing Ka Papahana Kaiapuni (Hawaiian Language Immersion Program) is that the assessments do not match the language of instruction (instruction-Hawaiian, assessments-English). Since funding and other supports are directly tied to the results of these assessments it causes problematic shifts in curriculum and instruction away from the original vision, mission and programmatic goals of Ka Papahana Kaiapuni.

As a band-aid type of remedy to this situation, the Hawai'i State DOE tried on its own to translate the English assessments and pass them off as valid. Expert testimony at Board of Education meetings at that time established that the use of any assessment that has been translated from the language that it was originally created in invalidates its results. Also at this time, while questions of validity lingered in the air, we asked the DOE about how the test would be piloted, and received two different, and problematic answers:

- 1) There was no need to do pilot testing since it had already been done for the English version of the test and,

- 2) The version the students would be given after the DOE's translations were "fixed" would serve as a pilot and scores received from that very same test would count towards the Adequate Yearly Progress score of their schools.

HB1986 calls for assessments for HLIP 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders to be created in Hawaiian, the language of instruction. This is something that Ka Papahana Kaiapuni families have been trying to get the DOE to do for years, with no success. It is also important that members of various role groups who may have necessary language and cultural expertise be allowed to participate in the creation of these assessments where they have not in the past.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your time and reiterate my support for HB2875. Hopefully this will be the beginning of a movement to more equitable and genuine assessments for all grades within Ka Papahana Kaiapuni, which truly seeks to inform classroom instruction, thereby increasing student success and not just carelessly chasing federal dollars as the DOE aimlessly races to the top continually keeping Hawaii's native children left behind.

Roblyn Kehau Camara,  
Makua (Parent), Ka Papahana Kaiapuni

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 9:38 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** kausang@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Kau'i Sang  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [kausang@gmail.com](mailto:kausang@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

Aloha kakou,  
I am submitting testimony in strong support of HB 2875.

The Department of Education has had ample opportunity to work towards the development of an acceptable Hawaiian language testing tool for all parties involved however they have failed over and over again to do a good job. The questions becomes, "Do they have the capacity to do a good job?" I believe the answer is yes. So why not do a good job? Part of that answer lies with the willingness to do a good job. The task ahead will be hard and no one is suggesting otherwise. With Hawaiian as an official language of the State of Hawaii and the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program as a viable educational choice for the children of Hawai'i, the Department of Education does not have a choice. They must do it and they must do it well.

A simple investigation into recent decision making, Board of Education meeting minutes, and test development practices regarding Hawaiian language test development will reveal that the Department of Education is not capable of independently choosing to make sound educational decisions or to do what is right for the students. Requiring the Department to develop Hawaiian language tests for HLIP students in law is the only way to get the Department of Education to comply. Requiring that statutory law be written to identify the 'Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i as an official entity recognized under State law is also an important step.

Please advance the bill as written and help to correct the injustice that has pervaded the test development process for HLIP students. Mahalo for your time.

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 20, 2012 11:35 PM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** Kealakeo@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Nichole Keo  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [Kealakeo@gmail.com](mailto:Kealakeo@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/20/2012

**Comments:**

I support this bill because my child has chosen to learn in the Hawaiian language. He should be supported in his efforts by making sure the tests he will soon be taking reflect his knowledge. Direct translations do not work for the simple fact that some translation words are simply invented, they are not words our ancestors would have used nor can they be found in the Hawaiian dictionary. Also Hawaiians, were a very figurative people, even a name will have a different meaning besides the literal translation of words. It is for these reasons tests should be developed specifically for the Hawaiian Immersion students of our state.

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 7:49 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** kaheaf@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Comments Only  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Kahea Faria  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [kaheaf@gmail.com](mailto:kaheaf@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

**Comments:**

I'm in support of the development of assessment by those who are truly qualified to do so. As a native speaker of Hawaiian, it is difficult to understand and to convey to others that the Hawaiian translations doesn't make sense in Hawaiian. However, it makes perfect sense when I read it in Hawaiian but think in English.

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 7:52 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** dkapua@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [dkapua@gmail.com](mailto:dkapua@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

### Comments:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2875 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

Aloha Senate Chairs Brickwood Galuteria, Jill Tokuda and Committee Members

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide supportive testimony for HB 2875.

As you may now know, the Hawaiian language community, to include makua like myself, have voiced strong concerns about the translated Hawaii State Assessment used for Hawaiian language immersion students because of the numerous problems relating to translated tests, including cultural and translation bias, translation inaccuracies, and terminology inconsistencies.

Our proposed bill requires assessments for third through sixth grade students in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

We believe that the Board of Education and Department of Education can and should work collaboratively with the Hawaiian language community in the developmental process, and execution of these assessment tests, for a fair and accurate measurement of the student achievement.

I urge you to pass HB 2875, with its supporting Resolution SCR 86, out of your committees and also on the Senate Floor.

Me ka ha'aha'a,  
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai  
Parent of two Hawaiian language immersion students



**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:35 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** elizabeth.torres96@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Elizabeth Torres  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [elizabeth.torres96@yahoo.com](mailto:elizabeth.torres96@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

**Comments:**

I am in support of bill HB 2875. It is important to see our children of Hawaii get the proper type of education that will lead them to success in life. Allowing assessments to be written in the primary Hawaiian language is important to judge the types of services if needed to continue educating our children for life long success.

**galuteria1 - Davis**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:45 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** samsung\_rocker@live.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Alyson Moriwaki  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [samsung\\_rocker@live.com](mailto:samsung_rocker@live.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

Comments:  
Kalola Moriwaki  
Kula Kaiapuni Hawaii 'o Kahuku Academy  
56-490 Kamehameha Highway  
Kahuku, HI 96731

Malaki 21, 2012

Chairperson Brickwood Galuteria & Committee Members Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Chairperson Jill N. Tokuda & Committee Members Committee o Education Hawai'i State  
Legislature  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Greetings to all,

I support this bill because it makes sense to give students that speak Hawaiian an assessment in the language they are familiar with. English is introduced in the fifth grade for an hour. So, of course its not going to be up to par with the people that speak english for the entire school day.

I support this HB 2875

Thank You,

Alyson Moriwaki

Shanel Kealoha-Hanohano  
Kula Kaiapuni Hawai'i o Kahuku Academy  
56-490 Kamehameha Highway  
Kahuku, Hi 96731

March 21, 2012

Chairperson Brickwood Galuteria And Committee Members  
Committee On Hawaiian Affairs

Chairperson Jill N. Tokuda And Committee Members  
Committee On Education

State House of Representative  
Hawaii State Legislature  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha,

My name is Shanel Kealoha-Hanohano. I am a junior at Kahuku High and Intermediate and also a student in the Kula Kaiapuni Hawai'i 'o Kahuku Academy.

I support HB No. 2875, which states that an assessment in Hawaiian for third graders to six graders will be developed in Hawaiian. This will be appropriate for them especially when they are only taught English in the fifth grade and only take an hour to learn English in school. Their first Language is Hawaiian and they're more familiar with the Hawaiian Language.

I also support this HB 2875 because I struggled in my days in elementary. It was hard and challenging for me to answer the questions on the assessment in English. I knew the correct answers in Hawaiian but didn't understand what was being asked of me in English.

Therefore I strongly support this House Bill 2875.

Mahalo,

Shanel Kealoha-Hanohano

## galuteria1 - Davis

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:49 AM  
**To:** HWN Testimony  
**Cc:** samsung\_rocker@live.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for HB2875 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM HB2875

Conference room: 225  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Hekili Graycochea  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [samsung\\_rocker@live.com](mailto:samsung_rocker@live.com)  
Submitted on: 3/21/2012

Comments:  
Hekili Graycochea  
Kula Kaiapuni Hawaii 'o Kahuku Academy  
56-490 Kamehameha Highway  
Kahuku, HI 96731

Malaki 21, 2012

Chairperson Brickwood Galuteria & Committee Members Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Chairperson Jill N. Tokuda & Committee Members Committee on Education Hawai'i State  
Legislature  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha e Representative Marcus R. Oshiro & Committee Members

I support HB2875. It is easier for a child to be assessed in a language that he or she is familiar with. It is obvious that a 3rd grade Hawaiian immersion student that had been taught to speak and read in Hawaiian since preschool would most likely not have a higher passing percentage than a child in the English classroom if he would take a test in English. As the same goes for a Hawaiian child who had not learned his own culture or language and he had been taught to speak and read in English. Most likely, the Hawaiian child that was not taught in Hawaiian would probably fail a test written in Hawaiian. I believe a child should learn his ancestors' language, their way of communication, and after learning the native tongue later as he/she is maturing, will be able to learn English.

I support this bill, HB2875.

Mahalo,

Hekili Graycochea

**To:** Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair, Committee on Education

**Fr:** Pohai Kukea-Shultz  
Parent, Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Anuenue



**Date:** March 20, 2012

**Subject:** Testimony in Support of House Bill 2875: Relating to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program

I would like to testify in support of HB 2875 that requires reading, math, science, and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six of the department of education's Hawaiian language immersion program to be developed originally in the Hawaiian language; requires the board of education to adopt rules establishing procedures for the development of these assessments in collaboration with the Hawaiian language community; and requires status reports to the 2013 and 2014 legislatures.

I have two children enrolled in the program and have been utterly disgusted by the DOE's complete lack of understanding of the inherent problems with translating one language into another and total disregard for my children's well-being. Instead, the department has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars paying a consulting company to do a terrible job of translating the English version of the HSA, never once consulted with the Hawaiian immersion community, and continues to force this flawed test down the throats of our children. It seems to me that they are more concerned with sticking to their own poor decisions, rather than admitting to their mistakes, creating a more inclusive process, and being pono moving forward. I am not asking for my children to be excluded from being assessed, but I do expect the playing field to be level at the start. Nothing about what the department has done thus far has been equitable to our children.

Last year the DOE attempted to force this flawed test on our children. A number of members of the Hawaiian immersion community, including teachers, parents (including myself), and university faculty testified at a Board of Education meeting against this action. I heard a number of things that day that were appalling to me as a parent, including the fact that the DOE advertised for test translators on Craigslist, that because the English version of the test had been field-tested that the Hawaiian version of the test did not need to be, and putting unrealistic expectations on the Hawaiian language community to fix the mistakes that another company (that got paid quite a bit of money) made. In these meetings that I attended last year, I saw the DOE acknowledge that the test was flawed and decide not to use the test on our children. And yet, here we are, a year later, having to again argue for equitable treatment for our children, despite what was acknowledged and decided on last year. This decision making process is like a roller coaster ride that I do not want to be on! And the worse part about it is that our children are the casualties of this process.

When the DOE presents inflated costs of creating these assessments in the language of instruction and argues that this is simply too expensive to do, I wonder if they have ever considered the cost of forcing our children to take a flawed test? Have they considered the cost of students crying during the test because the translation provided does not make sense? Have they considered the cost of our children being labeled failing, not because they are, but because the system has failed them? Have they considered the cost of not supporting our constitutional right to raise and evaluate our children in Hawaiian, an official language of this state? I would argue that the answer to all of these questions is a resounding no. If we make decisions about the educational opportunities we provide our children based only on money, then we have truly lost sight of what is important. Our children deserve much more than that.

We cannot expect our children to embrace the values of equality and justice and grow up to be productive (not to mention bilingual) citizens, if we do not model these values ourselves. This bill will ensure that the next generation of Hawaiian language speakers, with the heavy kuleana of perpetuating our native language, are treated fairly. Mahalo.

**To:** Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair, Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair, Committee on Education

**Fr:** Kahikina Kukea-Shultz  
Haumāna, Papa 3  
Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Ānuenue

**Date:** March 20, 2012

**Subject:** Kāko'ō au i HB 2875 (Support)

Aloha mai kākou,

'O wau 'o Kahikina Kukea-Shultz a hele wau ma Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'o Ānuenue. Kāko'ō wau i kēia pila 'o ia ho'i 'o HB 2875. 'A'ole pono ka hana a ka DOE no ka mea, 'o ko'u kuleana ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i akā, ua pa'i 'ia ka hō'ike ma ka 'ōlelo haole a laila 'unuhi 'ia ma ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i. 'A'ole like ka mana'o a 'a'ole pono. 'A'ole lākou no'ono'o e pili ana iā mākou a 'o kēlā ka pilikia nui. Ke noi nei wau iā 'oukou e ho'oponopono i ka hana hewa a ka DOE. Ho'okō wau i ko'u kuleana ma ke kula – no ke aha 'a'ole ho'okō pū ka DOE i ko lākou kuleana?

Mahalo.

Kahikina Kukea-Shultz

Megan U'ilani Nelson  
Kula Kaiapuni Hawai'i 'o Kahuku Academy  
56-490 Kamehameha Highway  
Kahuku, HI 96731

March 21, 2012

Chairperson Brickwood Galuteria & Committee Members  
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Chairperson Jill N. Tokuda & Cmmittee Members  
Committee on Education

State House Representative  
Hawai'i State Legislature  
415 South Beritania Street  
Honolulu HI 96813

Aloha,

My name is Megan U'ilani Nelson. I am a student of the Hawaiian Immersion program at Kahuku High School. I am writing in response to HB2875 and why I am for the Bill.

I believe that HB2875 would bring great benefit not only to the Hawaiian Immersion Students and Program, but to the government as well. With creating an assessment in Hawaiian the students will perform greater than with an assessment in English. The government gains from this monetarily and towards the rising of Hawaii's position in the national education ranking. This Bill will obligate the DOE to b more involved with the Hawaiian Immersion program and it's progress.

These are my thoughts and reasons for agreeing with the HB2875. Thank you for taking the time to read and assess my thoughts with your own.  
Mahalo,

Megan U'ilani Nelson