

LATE TESTIMONY

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
House Committee on Health
House Committee on Human Services
Testimony by
Early Learning Council
March 18, 2011
S.B. 926 – Relating to Children

Chair Yamane, Chair Mizuno and Committee Members:

The Early Learning Council (“ELC”) offers this testimony in support S.B. 926.

Established under Act 14, First Special Session 2008, the Early Learning Council is entrusted with the development and administration of the state’s early learning system. The ELC seeks to establish a cohesive, comprehensive, and sustainable early learning system that ensures a spectrum of quality early learning opportunities for young children from their prenatal period until the time they enter kindergarten. As such, the ELC focuses upon four essential areas: Early Education and Care; Health; Parent Education and Family Support; and Workforce and Professional Development.

S.B. 926, which funds programs designed to address school readiness and early childhood development, relates directly to the ELC’s focus areas of Early Education and Care; Health; and Parent Education and Family Support, and represents a significant step in establishing a comprehensive array of services that will foster a bright future for Hawaii’s children. The Early Learning Council strongly supports this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Robert Peters
Chair, Early Learning Council