

SCR 86

Date: 03/21/2012

Committee: Senate Hawaiian Affairs/Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 086/SR 044 Department of Education; Memorandum of Agreement; 'Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i

Purpose of Resolution: To request the Department of Education to establish a Memorandum of Agreement with Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawaii for the development in the Hawaiian language of the reading, math, science, and other assessments administered to students in grades three through six of the Department of Education's Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

Department's Position:
Supports

The Department of Education supports the intent of these resolutions, but suggests clarifying amendments as follows:

- (1) Stating that the annual assessments in the Hawaiian language 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;
- (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 these resolutions.



SCR86

**REQUESTING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAII FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE
HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE OF THE READING, MATH, SCIENCE, AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS
ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN GRADES THREE THROUGH SIX OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION'S HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM AND FORMAL
ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY STATUTE OR RULE OF AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAII**

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Senate Committee on Education

March 21, 2012

1:15 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) appreciates the intent of SCR86, which requests the Department of Education and the 'Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawai'i to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to develop reading, math and science assessments for Hawaiian Language Immersion Program students in grades three through six. These assessments would be developed originally in the Hawaiian language.

We appreciate that the DOE has reconvened the 'Aha Kauleo, and we hope that the DOE will now formally establish this critical advisory body in statute or administrative rules to ensure that the DOE continues to receive direct advice from Hawaiian language immersion stakeholders and experts. We note that this could be accomplished by amending HB2875 to add a new section formally establishing the 'Aha Kauleo within the DOE as a commission that: 1) advises the DOE Superintendent on issues relating to Hawaiian Language Immersion Program; and 2) works collaboratively with and provides Hawaiian language technical assistance to the department on the development of assessments for students in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

galuteria1 - Davis

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 8:15 AM
To: HWN Testimony
Cc: dkapua@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SCR86 on 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/EDU 3/21/2012 1:15:00 PM SCR86

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

Comments:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 86 REQUESTING A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAII FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE OF THE READING, MATH, SCIENCE, AND OTHER ASSESSMENTS ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS IN GRADES THREE THROUGH SIX OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM AND FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY STATUTE OR RULE OF AHA KAULEO KAIAPUNI HAWAII

Aloha Senate Chairs Brickwood Galuteria, Jill Tokuda and Committee Members

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide supportive testimony for SCR 86. As you may know, the Hawaiian language community, namely the 'Aha Kauleo Kaiapuni Hawaii, 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.

This proposed resolution requests a formal collaboration via a MOA to require the DOE to utilize the expertise that currently exists within the 'Aha Kauleo. The 'Aha Kaulea took a position to VOLUNTEER their services to this process FREE OF CHARGE to the DOE. This is for the sake of a fair, appropriate and adequate measurement of student achievement.

I urge you to pass SCR 86, and its primary Bill HB 2875, 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