



HB1551
RELATING TO EDUCATION

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

January 22, 2014

9:30 a.m.

Room 325

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend to the Board of Trustees a position of “**SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**” for HB1551, which would create an instructional Office of Hawaiian Studies within the State Department of Education (DOE) for the purpose of providing instruction to public school students on Hawaiian history, culture, arts and language.

OHA appreciates the spirit and intent behind HB1551, which seeks to provide appropriate oversight and adequate resources to Hawaiian education programs in the public schools. In this spirit, on October 28, 2013, OHA partnered with the State DOE to convene a one-day summit to review Board of Education (BOE) Policy 2104, which is the BOE’s Hawaiian Education Policy. Participants at this summit indicated a clear interest and desire for appropriate oversight and adequate resources to ensure the delivery of instruction in Hawaiian history, culture, arts and language in public schools.

The BOE is reviewing BOE Policy 2104, and BOE member Cheryl Ka’uhane Lupenui is convening a working group following the October 2013 summit to continue this review. OHA looks forward to discussing the new oversight structure proposed under HB1551 with the Hawaiian community and stakeholders such as ‘Aha Kauleo and requests the opportunity to share the results of those discussions, including recommended amendments, with the committee.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 01/22/2014

Committee: House Ocean, Marine
Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1551 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the instructional office of Hawaiian studies for the purpose of providing instruction to public school students on Hawaiian history, culture, arts, and language. Makes an appropriation for the instructional office of Hawaiian studies.

Department's Position:

At this time, the Department of Education chooses not to comment on HB 1552 until the Board of Education (Board) is given an opportunity to review the Bill. The Department would like to discuss this bill with its Hawaiian Education stakeholders. Positions taken will be subsequently shared with the appropriate legislative committees. Bills relating to public education with policy, program, and fiscal implications are scheduled to be reviewed by the Board at its upcoming General Business Meeting.

The Department would also like to ensure that HB 1552 would not replace or adversely impact priorities set forth in the Executive Budget.

January 21, 2014

Aloha Kakou,

My name is Dee Bajo-Daniel and I am the Hawaiian Studies Program Coordinator for the Department of Education's (DOE) Central District. I have held this position for 15+ years. I am speaking as a private citizen and on behalf of the Kupuna, Makua, ad Kumu in my district who teach in the public school system.

We are not in support of HB 151 and HB1552 because we were not provided information or given the opportunity to provide input or feedback regarding HB 1551 or HB 1552. I strongly feel that whoever created this legislation needs to explain to us about this Instructional Office of Hawaiian Studies. We want to know what this office is and the impact it will have on the existing system, and the impact it will have on all the work that we already are doing to enrich our students in Hawaiian education.

While it is our job to promote and provide Hawaiian education, it is truly more important that we plant the seed in the Keiki that we service to become true keepers of a culture rather than to only know about Hawaiians and the Hawaiian culture, history, and language.

You can have all this knowledge and education but unless you are taught to take it to heart and embrace it as a way of life it is just that "knowledge" and not really understanding, applying, and living what the Kupuna / Makua shared and taught you.

There already exists an office that is responsible for Hawaiian education programs. It seems unnecessary to create another office. It is creating another layer within the DOE system. Maybe we should focus on the current system and in making it more supportive of the structure.

Therefore, the Kupuna and Makua of Central District does not support HB 1551 or HB 1552. There needs to be more opportunities for providing information and allowing us to provide input and feedback...and truly understanding the impact this legislation will have on all of us.

cullen3

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 9:01 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: dkapua@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB1551 on Jan 22, 2014 09:30AM

HB1551

Submitted on: 1/22/2014

Testimony for OMH on Jan 22, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha kakou, Please support passage of HB 1551 establishing a much needed long overdue Hawaiian Education Programs Instructional Office. Mahalo. Kapua

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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cullen3

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HB1551

Submitted on: 1/21/2014

Testimony for OMH on Jan 22, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Encourage passage of this bill. Assures that public school education on Hawaiian history, culture, arts and the language is properly organized, planned, executed, and given the attention it deserves.

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