



**HB1552**  
**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 HB1552, 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 HB1552, which seeks to provide appropriate oversight and adequate resources to Hawaiian education programs in the public schools, and in particular, Hawaiian language immersion schools. In this spirit, in July 2013, OHA partnered with the Kamehameha Schools to sponsor a one-day summit with representatives from the Hawaiian language immersion community to review the Hawaiian language immersion program and make recommendations to the State DOE for improvement. Participants at this summit indicated a clear interest and desire for appropriate oversight and adequate resources for this program.

The Board of Education (BOE) is also reviewing BOE Policy 2105, the BOE’s policy on the Hawaiian language immersion program. OHA looks forward to discussing new oversight structure proposed under HB1552 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  
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**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 1552 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes the Hawaiian Studies Instructional Office to ensure the provision of instruction in Hawaiian history, culture, arts, and language to students in public schools.

**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.

**cullen3**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 22, 2014 9:03 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** dkapua@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1552 on Jan 22, 2014 09:30AM

**HB1552**

Submitted on: 1/22/2014

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

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha kakou, Please support passage of HB 1552 establishing a much needed long overdue Hawaiian Studies 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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