

February 19, 2014

Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance  
February 21, 2014  
1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308

Re: HB 2276, Relating to Early Childhood Education

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the Committee:

**The Early Learning Advisory Board supports HB 2276**, which establishes, upon ratification of the amendment to article X, section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, as proposed in Senate Bill No. 1084, introduced in the Regular Session of 2013, a statewide early childhood education program. This program will consist of providers of high-quality early childhood education delivered in either of Hawaii's two official languages to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that a children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career.

Established under Act 178 (2012), the Early Learning Advisory Board replaced the Early Learning Council and is responsible for advising the Executive Office on Early Learning, providing recommendations to the Executive Office on Early Learning, promoting collaboration among state agencies, and being an independent voice for the overall well-being of Hawaii's children.

Hawai'i has been a national leader in ensuring access to quality health care, family support and community based models that improve the lives of young children. The Early Learning Advisory Board seeks to ensure that all children are valued, safe, healthy and ready to succeed. The board has adopted a comprehensive action strategy to achieve its goals. We strongly support advancing this bill and look forward to working collaboratively and proactively with the legislature and the broader community. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Robert Peters  
Chair, Early Learning Advisory Board

State of Hawaii Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB)  
elab.k12.hi.us



EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING  
HONOLULU

GG WEISENFELD  
DIRECTOR

Testimony in **Support of**  
H.B. 2276, Relating to Early Childhood Education  
By GG Weisenfeld, Director

House Committee on Finance  
February 21, 2014  
1:00 p.m., Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon. I am GG Weisenfeld, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL is in support of House Bill 2276.

The purpose of this bill is to implement, upon its ratification, the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, by establishing a statewide early childhood education program.

Section 1 sets forth why early childhood education is important, the history of early learning in Hawaii, and the legislative intent. It is an important component of the bill and we urge the committee to retain this section in any subsequent drafts.

This bill will enable EOEL to contract with private, community-based providers, such as KCAA Preschools of Hawaii, Kama'aina Kids, and Seagull Schools, to offer quality educational programs for children prior to their entry into kindergarten.

Private providers are essential to meeting the need of over 17,000 four-year-olds for a prekindergarten experience. While partnerships with DOE (for preschool classrooms on DOE campuses through a memorandum of agreement with EOEL – run by DOE with support from EOEL) and family-child interaction learning programs (where a parent attends with their children) will serve some of this population, most four-year-olds will have their prekindergarten experience in a private, community-based preschool.

Participating private, community-based providers will be required to:

- Have defined child outcomes;
- Incorporate positive teacher-child interactions;
- Use individual child formative assessments;
- Incorporate family engagement; and
- Have a curriculum aligned with the Hawaii Early Learning Development Standards.

In addition, the program provided for by this bill will allow EOEL to monitor quality indicators, assist Head Start programs with supplemental funds if federal funds are decreased, and distribute federal funds that are provided in the recently passed federal budget.

With the program as provided for in this bill and appropriate funding, the State will be able to help provide access to quality prekindergarten for 85% of four-year-olds by 2018 (see attached).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

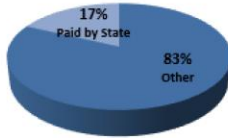


## STATE FUNDS ONLY A FRACTION OF THE INVESTMENT IN 4-YEAR-OLDS

Majority comes from available federal, private, and special education funds

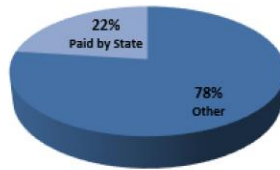
### SY 2014-15 / FY 2015

\$16 Million / 17%  
\$93.2 Million Total (All Sources)



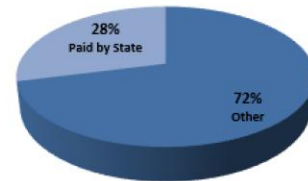
### SY 2015-16 / FY 2016

\$21.1 Million / 22%  
\$98.3 Million Total (All Sources)



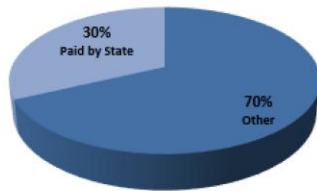
### SY 2016-17 / FY 2017

\$29.3 Million / 28%  
\$106.5 Million Total (All Sources)



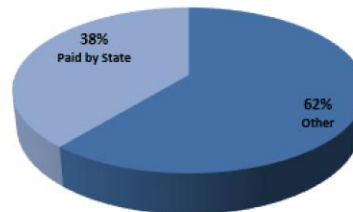
### SY 2017-18 / FY 2018

\$32.8 Million / 30%  
\$110 Million Total (All Sources)



### SY 2018-19 / FY 2019

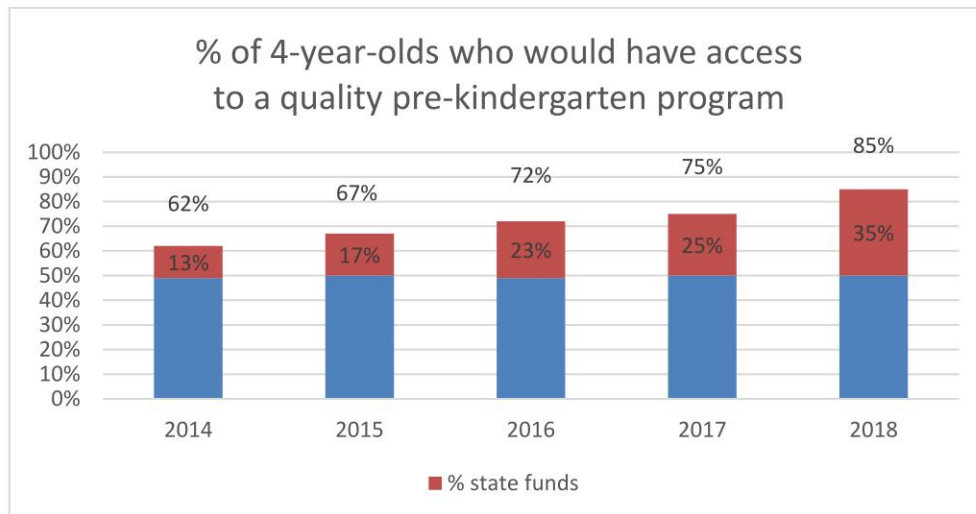
\$47.9 Million / 38%  
\$125 Million Total (All Sources)



#### Notes:

- "Other" funds consist of a combination of federal (e.g., Head Start), parent, private foundation, and special education funds.
- Reflects supplemental budget request for FY2015 and projected budget requests.

According to the 2012 U.S. Census, there are 17,189 4-year-olds in Hawaii. Based on this funding projection, which assumes passage of a Constitutional amendment to allow public funds to be given to private early childhood education programs, the following percentage of 4-year-olds would have access to a quality pre-kindergarten education program.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 02/21/2014

**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 2276(hscr365-14) RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2276. The Department recognizes the importance of establishing a quality early learning system to support all children in their journey towards a college- and career-ready future in Hawaii.



# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

## **Legislative Testimony**

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Testimony presented before the  
House Committee on Finance  
February 21, 2014 at 1:00 pm  
By Dr. Joanne Itano  
Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs  
University of Hawai'i System

### **HB 2276 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

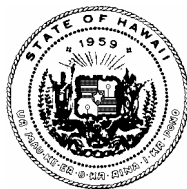
Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and members of the House Committee on Finance:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports HB 2276 which establishes, upon ratification of the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawai'i State Constitution, an early childhood education program within the early learning system administered by the Executive Office of Early Learning.

Studies have shown the link between quality early childhood education and subsequent school and adult outcomes. As outlined in HB 2276, the early childhood education program will provide equitable access to high-quality early childhood education that addresses children's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social, and emotional development and monitor the implementation of quality standards.

The University of Hawai'i recognizes that our effectiveness as the state's public higher education system relies on the strength of the earliest foundations established for our youngest children. We therefore support the early childhood education program described in HB 2276.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 21, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Barbara Yamashita, Deputy Director

SUBJECT: **H.B. 2276 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Hearing: Friday, February 21, 2014; 1:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of H.B. 2276 is to establish the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System, as established by Section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, upon ratification of the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports this Administration bill.

The Early Childhood Education Program would consist of providers of high-quality early education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career.

The ratification of the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, will enable the State to establish the Early Childhood Education Program through which:

- 1) Capacity can be built to serve four-year-old children;
- 2) The infrastructure made available by the private sector would reduce the amount of public dollars that would be required to be spent on public facilities to accommodate four-year-old children; and
- 3) Quality standards that are linked to children's educational outcomes, which research emphasizes is necessary to produce significant outcomes for children in both in the near- and long-term, will be required for all participating providers to ensure children are receiving high-quality education.

Studies have shown that high-quality early childhood education programs are especially effective for children from low-income families or otherwise disadvantaged children.

Many of the families of late-born children affected by the change in kindergarten entry age year will be forced to find child care arrangements for an additional year. Without the implementation of the Early Childhood Education Program, these displaced children may not attend a high-quality early education program in this extra year prior to kindergarten entry. Many working families are not able to afford the cost of tuition at a high-quality early education program as they struggle to make ends meet in Hawaii, one of the states with the highest cost of living in the nation.

The proposed Early Childhood Education Program would provide services to all eligible children and provide families and children access to participating high-quality early childhood education programs which will incorporate the following quality standards in their program:

- 1) Positive teacher-child interactions;
- 2) Use of individual child assessments for ongoing instructional planning based upon all areas of childhood development and learning, including cognitive,



linguistic, social, and emotional approaches to learning and health and physical development;

3) Family engagement; and

4) Curricula alignment with the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards which align with Department of Education's Common Core State Standards, State Content and Performance Standards, and General Learner Outcomes for grades kindergarten to twelve.

In addition, the Executive Office on Early Learning may provide support and resources to participating programs to incorporating the quality standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON FINANCE

Wil Okabe  
President  
Joan Kamila Lewis  
Vice President  
Colleen Pasco  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Alvin Nagasako  
Executive Director

DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014

RE: H.B. 2276 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PERSON TESTIFYING: WIL OKABE  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Honorable Chair Sylvia Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) strongly **opposes H.B. 2276** relating to the implementation upon its ratification, the amendment to Article X, section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution.

HSTA is the exclusive representative of more than 13,500 public and charter school teachers statewide. As the state affiliate of the 3.2 million members of the National Education Association, HSTA believes that the Constitutional Amendment is clearly an education voucher in which it takes public funds to pay for private education. We support public funding for all preschool students. The Department of Education should have the oversight for preschools in public settings.

HSTA strongly believes in early childhood education in the public schools. As educators, we made the commitment to our children to give them the best type of quality education for the future of Hawaii. Our early childhood education teachers are highly recognized, educated, and some of the best in the nation.

We believe in quality education taught by qualified and licensed teachers in every classroom.

We believe in students having the proper tools, facilities, and guidance in order to be successful.

We believe in parents knowing that their child is in a safe nurturing environment.

We believe in standards of care where as a single unified school system, education should be under one umbrella and not done in the silo in which it is presently structured.

Contrary to what this bill states, private schools are a choice and the state should be working towards ensuring that we strive towards educating children under one system.

President Obama spoke of the need for high quality preschools for four year olds during his state of the state address. We honor his statement. However, unlike other states, Hawaii does not recognize the need to ensure that five years olds are properly educated. It is our kuleana to secure that our kindergarteners come first.

A great teacher can be a game changer, and a great teacher can help change student's lives for the future. We disagree with the justification in the bill that states, "the future will be grim for this population of children, especially if left without the opportunity for early childhood education."

The reality is that the future of Hawaii will be grim if our students and parents cannot get jobs, cannot afford to live in Hawaii, raise their family, and be fiscally responsible to the economy.

The bill states, "middle school level teachers shared that they can tell which students in their classrooms have and have not gone to preschool." Public school teachers in Hawaii can also identify those students in elementary and high school as well. These teachers work with many different children of all levels and all abilities. Some students enter into school having many years of preschool but by middle school, may find themselves struggling with algebra and other subjects. It is certainly easier for some students to do well in school. Some students have the ability to concentrate, some students have the ability to retain information for long periods of time, and some of the ability to apply what they have learned. These are important abilities and skills for our students to be successful in school.

There are elements in this bill that are missing studies about what happens when a child is taught by a non-highly qualified teacher. The Department of Education requires all teachers who teach Junior Kindergarten to be licensed, have credentials such as a degree, and ongoing training and professional development. These are the same for the four and a half-year olds entering schools and the legislature is legislating a double standard.

The Department of Human Services has not set up any rules to determine its criteria for the roll out of its program Open Doors. Right now it is a closed door to all of the students who could be attending preschool. It is not clear who will be accountable to ensure what and how this plan will work.

If early childhood education was a priority, then schools should have mandatory kindergarten in our compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started.

We urge you to invest in our public school as they are underfunded and value our existing schools by keeping tax dollars to serve all children in public schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong opposition of H.B. 2276**.



Friday, February 21, 2014  
1:00 PM  
Conference Room 308

TESTIMONY TO  
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON FINANCE

**RE: HB 2276 – Relating to Early Childhood Education**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and members of the Committee:

My name is Robert Witt, Executive Director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), which represents 99 private and independent schools in Hawaii and educates over 33,000 students statewide.

**HAIS is in strong support of HB 2276** which will create a much-needed early childhood program in our state upon ratification of the amendment to Article X, Section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution. Hawaii is one of only ten states that does not have an established statewide early learning program, which means that we are missing a very crucial window of opportunity in the neural brain development of our young children.

We have heard the proverbial “cart before the horse” argument used by some, but that is not the case here; when the Constitutional Amendment passes during the 2014 election, HB 2276 will allow the Office of Early Learning to continue proceeding with the development of a comprehensive early childhood system using public-private partnerships to build upon already-existing high-quality non-profit child care providers through a mixed-delivery system. Due to limited resources and funds, it is imperative that the public and private sectors collaborate on this effort to ensure that all children have an equal opportunity for access to a quality early childhood education.

As the association that represents the voices of the private and independent schools, we are eager and willing to support the state in its efforts and believe that families should have choices when it comes to the education of their children. There is no one-size-fits-all mode of delivery for that education, so it will be important to have the support of group child care centers, group child care homes and family-child interaction learning programs.

Private providers will enter into contracts with the state to ensure that quality standards are met. It is clearly understood that this **is not** a voucher program, nor is that what we hope to move toward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

Sincerely,  
Robert M. Witt, M.Ed.  
Executive Director



**KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®**  
The House of Representatives  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature 2014  
State of Hawai'i

**TO:** Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Finance

**DATE:** Friday, February 21, 2014

**TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Conference Room 308  
Hawai'i State Capitol

**FROM:** Kamehameha Schools

**RE: HOUSE BILL 2276, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB2276, relating to early childhood education. Kamehameha Schools strongly supports the efforts of the legislature to enhance the early education opportunities across the state. Therefore, we support HB2276, which establishes, upon ratification of the amendment to article X, section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, as proposed in Senate Bill No. 1084, introduced in the Regular Session of 2013, a statewide early childhood education program. This program will consist of providers of high-quality early childhood education delivered in either of Hawaii's two official languages to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that a children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Princess Bernice Pauahi Bishop, whose mission is to improve the capability and well-being of Native Hawaiian children through education. We serve K-12 students through campus programs on O'ahu, Hawai'i and Maui, and three-and-four-year-olds at preschool sites statewide. In 2004, the Early Childhood Education division also began serving keiki from birth to three years old, as part of its Hi'ilani Early Childhood Collaborative program. We also provide scholarships to keiki attending other preschools and provide funding for child-family interaction programs that have filled a great need in rural communities.

Since its inception more than 20 years ago, the Kamehameha Schools Early Childhood Education Division has provided more than 11,000 keiki with their first preschool experience. Early childhood education and parental support is the cornerstone of the Education Strategic Plan adopted in 2005, which seeks to foster long-term intergenerational change in the way Native Hawaiian families approach learning. Research demonstrates that early education is a key factor in lifelong success for all children, and we strongly urge the legislature to promote, enhance and support the efforts of the State of Hawai'i to appropriately address the needs of Hawaii's pre-kindergarten children. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the Legislature, the Department of Education and other public and private stakeholders in the community for the benefit of the children of Hawai'i.



Testimony presented before the  
House Committee on Finance  
February 21, 2014 at 1:00 pm  
By Karen C. Lee, Ed.D.  
Executive Director, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education

HB 2276: Relating to Early Childhood Education.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and Members of the Committee:

HB 2276 establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Hawaii P-20 strongly supports this bill. As an organization that works in partnership with the Executive Office on Early Learning, the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii, Hawaii P-20 works to improve the educational pipeline and facilitates seamless educational experiences across systems. The research has shown that investing in early childhood education, especially that which is of high-quality and is developmentally appropriate, leads to better educational, social and economic outcomes. It is not enough to provide childcare or babysitting services for young children; they need appropriate educational preparation to be successful in the next stage of education: elementary school.

As proposed, the Early Childhood Education Program will be essential to deliver high-quality education to young children who were previously unable to afford access to pre-kindergarten educational services. And, when children are not ready to learn by kindergarten, their chances at elementary, secondary and post-secondary success and completion are greatly diminished. Since at least one study predicts that 65% of jobs in Hawaii in year 2018 will require at least some post-secondary education, Hawaii must prepare its children for success by investing in them early.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

**Hawai'i P-20**

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February 20, 2014

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johnson, Vice Chair  
House Finance Committee

From: Christina Cox, President  
KCAA Preschools of Hawaii

Subject: HB2276 Relating to Early Childhood Education

KCAA Preschools of Hawaii was established in 1895 by the Woman’s Board of Missions to serve the children of immigrant workers. We serve over 900 children per year in 7 NAEYC accredited preschools on Oahu. More than 50% of our students are low-income and over 80% go on to attend DOE elementary schools. We manage tuition subsidies from 7 different sources, each with its own set of requirements. We have a \$7 million annual operating budget with 130 employees. This past year, KCAA completed the construction of Hawaii’s first professional development center for early educators at a cost of \$3.2 million. It is located on our Mother Rice campus in Moiliili. The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Center for Early Education and Development was funded exclusively by private businesses and Hawaii’s dedicated philanthropic community. KCAA’s Board was instrumental in this effort and is committed to working with the State, the DOE, UH and Chaminade University as well as the early education community to increase the number of qualified teachers, to improve their practice and to improve outcomes for Hawaii’s *keiki*.

**Please note that while I presently serve as the center-based program provider representative on the Early Learning Advisory Board and also serve as the Liaison for the Childcare Business Coalition of Hawaii which represents more than 90 centers throughout the State I am testifying in support of the intent of this measure today as the President of KCAA Preschools of Hawaii, a position that I have held for the past 13 years.**

There has never been more research to document the rate of return on investment made by states than there is today. *Bloomberg Businessweek* published an article in the January 16, 2014 edition citing the findings of James Heckman, Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago and 2000 Nobel Laureate in Economics: *The bottom line: Heckman calculates that early education spending yields an annual lifetime “return to society” of up to 10%. The earlier a child gets help, the better the results through each stage of education.*” I have included the article for your reference.

- ATHERTON - KAILUA
- KUAPA - HAWAII KAI
- LAURA MORGAN - KAPALAMA HEIGHTS
- MOTHER RICE - MOILILI
- MURIEL - KAKAAKO
- NA LEI - KALIHI
- WAI-KAHALA - KAHALA





- Early experiences have a decisive impact on the actual architecture of the brain and on the nature and extent of adult capacities.
- By the time children from middle-income families are in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade they know about 12,000 words compared to low income children who know just 4,000 words, one third as many as their peers. This gap begins in the early years and research has repeatedly confirmed that early education makes all the difference in school success.

While clearly all children benefit from a high quality early learning experience, a report issued this past September from the Brookings Institution makes the following observations:

*Expanding access to preschool programs, as advocated in President Obama's "Preschool for All" initiative, would have positive effects on the preschool enrollment of all 4-year olds, but if access is free regardless of income, it could lead many children to switch out of the private system and into the public program. This "crowd-out" should be an important consideration as states would have to decide on the level of cost-sharing for middle-class families.* The study also found that the children from lower-income families had the most significant academic gains. Hawaii should take heed of these findings as we move forward, working to leverage State dollars and existing community resources.

The recently approved 2014 Omnibus Budget includes additional funding for low-income children in multiple forms; of most interest are the "Pre-K Development Grants" which will be jointly administered by the DOE and HHS. As one of the last states to develop a state-funded prek program Hawaii is referred to as a **remedial State**, a special category was created for us! We should embrace this as an opportunity to move forward.

Hawaii should use the fact that we are one of the last states to adopt a state-funded pre-k program to our benefit. **We have learned from other states that those that have developed mixed delivery systems that prioritize limited tax payer dollars to support preschool access for low-income children and that both blend and braid federal and state dollars to support the development of higher quality programs are those that truly improve educational outcomes for low-income children!**

The philanthropic community has a history of supporting both public and private education in Hawaii. It is poised to support the State's efforts to create a high quality mixed-delivery system, one that works in partnership with the DOE. We all have something to bring to the table and we are confident that together we can build capacity and strengthen our future workforce.

While it is true that the need to pass a Constitutional amendment adds a layer of complexity to this effort, I believe that it can be done and that this bill is a good first step.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this measure.

## Politics & Policy

<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2014-01-16/the-heckman-equation-early-childhood-education-benefits-all>

# The Heckman Equation: Early Childhood Education Benefits All

By Brendan Greeley January 16, 2014

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“Boy, Jim, sounds like you’ve really turned into a social democrat.” This is what James Heckman remembers Lawrence Summers telling him one day in the early 1990s as they sat in Summers’s office in Washington. Heckman, an economist at the University of Chicago, was laying out his ideas about economic development to Summers, then a Treasury under secretary. Poor families should have guaranteed access to education for their 3- and 4-year-olds, Heckman said. He wasn’t advocating socialism, he told Summers, just the opposite: He was fixing a market failure.

Heckman won a Nobel prize in 2000. He used his speech in Stockholm to underscore the importance of using hard, observable data in making public policy, and he’s continued to gather evidence for the idea he explained to Summers. Focused, personal attention paid to the young children of poor families isn’t some warm, fuzzy notion, he argues. It’s a hard-nosed investment that pays off in lower social welfare costs, decreased crime rates, and increased tax revenue. And he has the numbers to prove it. He calls this the Heckman Equation, and shares it relentlessly in public lectures around the country and the world. “The argument is not just an appeal to the poor,” he says. “We’re saving money for everyone, including the taxpaying middle class and upper class. Right now they’re supporting prisons, health, special education in schools. The benefit is broadly shared. . . . It’s something that would actually accrue to the whole country.”

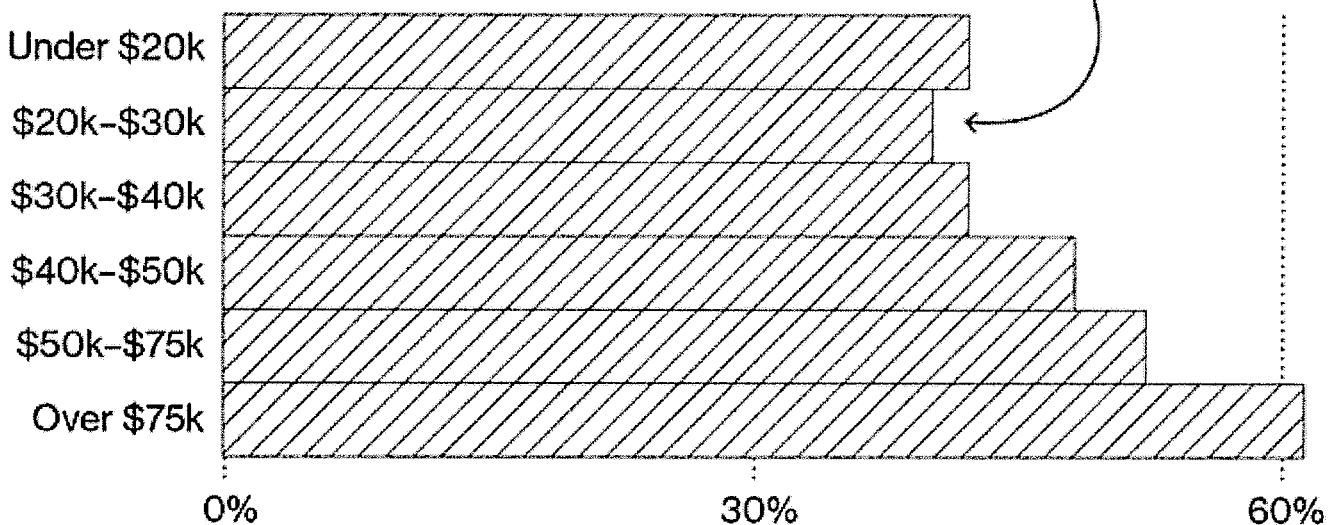
Saving money, or at least justifying spending it, is now a requirement in Congress and state capitols, and Heckman’s advocacy is winning the support of politicians in both parties. Last year the White House pointed to his work in its budget proposal for early education grants to states. On Dec. 13, congressional negotiators put \$250 million for new early education funding into its omnibus spending bill. And President Obama is expected to make the issue a priority in his upcoming State of the Union speech.

The states are way ahead of Obama. Fifteen governors, more Republicans than Democrats, included new money for early childhood education in their budgets in 2013. In all, states are now spending \$400 million more on pre-K than before the economic downturn. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, who meets with Heckman often, says much of this activity can be credited to Heckman’s work. “You have this Nobel prize-winning economist and not some soft-hearted someone like me,” says Duncan. “It’s incredibly powerful.”

scroll down - p.2

## Preschool Participation

2012 enrollment of 3- and 4-year-olds in U.S. preschools, by parents' income



GRAPHIC BY BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK; DATA: U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Heckman grounds his argument in two long-term studies, one begun in the 1960s in Ypsilanti, Mich., and another a decade later in Chapel Hill, N.C. Both provided free preschool to children from lower-income families. In the decades since, researchers have been given periodic access to those children, now adults. At age 40, the subjects from the Ypsilanti study were far more likely than their peers to have graduated from high school and have jobs. They were more likely to own homes and less likely to have needed social services. The boys were more likely to have grown up to raise their own children and less likely ever to have been arrested. Children from the program in Chapel Hill had higher test scores than their peers through adolescence and were more likely to have gone to college. Both studies are well-known to education researchers. Heckman put them under the gimlet eye of a microeconomist.

In 2010 he and several co-authors produced what he called the “first rigorous cost-benefit study” of the Ypsilanti program. The free instruction cost \$17,759 per child per year in 2006 dollars (the year they began working with the data). Heckman set out to find out what taxpayers got for that money. He calculated what the program had saved the state and federal government in social welfare, what it had paid out in increased tax revenue from higher wages, and, most significantly, what it had saved in police, court, and prison costs. The initial investment provided what Heckman calls a “return to society” at an annual rate of 7 percent to 10 percent. Put another way, each dollar spent at age 4 is worth between \$60 and \$300 by age 65. “For my Republican friends, that’s a language they respect,” says Duncan.

At this month’s conference of the American Economic Association, Heckman presented a new reason for government to provide this benefit. The data show that the earlier a child gets help, the better the results through each stage of education. Yet younger parents are on the whole more credit-constrained than older ones. So at the time they ought to be putting their kids into early education programs, they don’t have the money or credit to pay for it. Economists call this an imperfect credit market. “The accident of birth is a huge, huge imperfection,” says Heckman.

Early education has political appeal because it not only benefits society but it more than pays for itself. “It’s not just redistribution,” says Harvard University economist David Deming, who shares data with Heckman and agrees broadly with his findings. “If there are people who disagree with Jim Heckman,” he says, it’s because they doubt that “one experiment with 100 kids in Ypsilanti gives you the information you need.” Heckman concedes the early studies are showing their age. But more recent research on programs from other states “has one major flaw—no long-term follow-up,” he says. “I’m not going to argue that those things might not work, but we can’t argue yet that they have.”

It’s also not clear whether spending on middle-class children yields the same return as it does for poor kids. “A lot of this eye-popping benefit comes from crime reduction,” says Deming, and children from better-off families are less likely to commit crimes with or without early education. Heckman agrees. For that reason he stops short of endorsing universal pre-K. As a matter of politics, though, any education program must include the middle class. “Reality is, if you target a program at the very poor, it’s hard to build political support,” says Duncan.

Heckman’s research doesn’t lead him to endorse any single early education proposal. “The idea of a uniform curriculum is insane,” he says.

“There’s this notion of objective public policy. Everyone signs off, and governors give away fountain pens,” he says, but each state has different needs. Regardless of the curriculum a state adopts, the long-term savings his research promises come from providing intense, parenting-style attention to the children who can most benefit from it. “The most successful programs,” he says, “would mirror what’s going on in the most successful families.”

*The bottom line: Heckman calculates that early education spending yields an annual lifetime “return to society” of up to 10 percent.*



Greeley is a staff writer for *Bloomberg Businessweek* in New York.

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**PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT**  
FOUNDATION

21Feb14

To: House Committee of Finance  
From: Partners In Development Foundation  
Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2276: Relating to Early Childhood Education

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair's Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of this House Committee on Finance,

Partners In Development Foundation strongly supports the intent of this legislation. As providers of preschool early education services (as opposed to day-care) to at-risk Native-Hawaiian families within our communities, we have experienced first-hand the positive effect that this resource has made in their lives.

In addition, providing early education services to homeless communities has helped us to develop a rapport of trust, that allows us to transition these families into shelters where we can further assist in finding jobs for the adult members and in some cases, assist in getting them permanent housing.

It is more than just about Early Education. In some cases it is about family stability. Please vote favorably for HB 2276.

Mahalo Nui,

Billy Richards  
Director of Communications  
Partners In Development Foundation



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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TO: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
Members, Committee on Finance

FROM: Scott Morishige, Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: House Committee on Finance  
**Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. in Conf. Rm. 308**

**Testimony in Support of HB2276, Relating to Early Childhood Education.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education program. PHOCUSED is a statewide coalition of health, housing, and human services organizations committed to strengthening policies and programs that benefit the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii.

Education can provide a leveling of socio-economic impacts experienced by children from low-income families. These families are dealing with the challenges of Hawaii's high cost of living realities and are focused on providing the necessities, like food and housing. As a result children from low-income families are less likely to have the "extra" resources necessary to access high quality early childhood education programs. As studies have clearly shown, investing in a high-quality early childhood education will result in higher levels of educational attainment and stronger social and economic well-being. A strong start with early education provides a bridge to a different future for these children.

An Early Childhood Education program means that children in low-income families will have access to high-quality educational programming that would otherwise be out of reach. Without this access children from low-income families are less likely to have the strong start to their education that will result in providing a bridge to a successful college experience/career that will change their family's financial/social tree for generations to come.

Once again, PHOCUSED strongly urges your support of HB2276. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on this critical issue.



# Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

*The Voice of Business*

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance  
Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

**RE: HOUSE BILL 2276 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2276 Relating to Early Childhood Education.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing over 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber believes that this measure must be in place to provide services to the gap group that will result from the 2014 change in kindergarten entry age (children must be five years old by July 31 of the school year to enroll in DOE kindergarten) mandated by Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2012. DOE estimates there are 5,100 children in the gap. It is critical that immediate action is taken to make sure these children are covered.

Also, the Chamber strongly believes that focusing on early childhood is critical because brain development takes place by age five. We believe it's imperative to begin investing early in a child's life, when the brain is in this state of tremendous growth potential. In 2008, the Hawaii Economic Benefits Study of early education for Hawai'i showed that for every \$1 Hawai'i invests in a quality four-year early learning program, the state will receive a return of \$4.20. This is not only about return of investment but in providing for our employees and their children.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



1806 So. King Street | Suite 30 | Honolulu, HI 96826 | (808)942-4708 | FAX (808)955-2739 | haeyc@hawaiiayc.org

House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance  
Friday, February 21, 2014, 1:00 p.m.  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 308

House Bill 2276- Relating to Early Childhood Education

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the committee. Hawai'i Association for the Education of Young Children (HAEYC) **supports** HB 2276. It clearly states that high quality programs would be provided through public and community based programs through either of the state's two official languages.

HAEYC sees the support of programs to reach high quality as a priority that would benefit children and families. The Executive Office on Early Learning should support, or find support, for programs to incorporate quality standards into programs.

HAEYC acknowledges the vision and courage it takes for legislators to enact laws that will come to full fruition after they leave office. Investing in early childhood development and education will be a lasting legacy.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Katherine E. Murphy  
Executive Director  
HAEYC





Testimony of Cindy McMillan  
The Pacific Resource Partnership

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

HB 2276 - Relating to Early Learning  
HB 1676, HD1 – Relating to Early Childhood Education  
Friday, February 21, 2014  
1:00 PM  
Conference Room 308

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and members of the Committee,

The Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters.

PRP supports HB 2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, HRS, and HB 1676, HD1, which authorizes the Executive Office on Early Learning to enter into agreements with the Department of Education and public charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms.

Last year, the Legislature made the courageous decision to begin building the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii; you passed and funded a school readiness system and you looked ahead and passed a measure to place a constitutional amendment on the 2014 ballot to ask Hawaii's residents if we are ready to invest in a statewide community preschool system – a system that allows our parents, local non-profit preschools, and public school system to become partners working together to provide opportunities for all of our state's children.

Now, we need your help once again with the passage of HB 2276. This measure will ensure that Hawaii's preschool program will have the capacity, quality, and oversight to succeed.

Please support HB 2276 and HB 1676, HD1 and thank-you for allowing us to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future.

## Aloha United Way

200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 700  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3938  
Telephone (808) 536-1951  
Fax (808) 543-2222  
Website: [www.auw.org](http://www.auw.org)



**Aloha United Way**

## Cover Sheet

**Testifying Agency:** Aloha United Way  
Kim Gennaula, President & CEO

### House Committee on Finance

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair

**Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.**

**Conference Room 308**

**HB 2276: Relating to Early Childhood Education: Testimony in Support**

## Aloha United Way

200 N. Vineyard Blvd., Suite 700  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-3938  
Telephone (808) 536-1951  
Fax (808) 543-2222  
Website: [www.auw.org](http://www.auw.org)



February 19, 2014

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 308

Re: HB 2276 Relating to Early Childhood Education - SUPPORT

Honorable Chairs & Committee Members:

Aloha United Way supports HB 2276, which, upon amending Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, establishes a statewide early childhood education program geared towards establishing a solid foundation for children's future educational and career success.

HB 2276 is important because in an era of fiscal constraint, it enables the State of Hawaii to use the collective impact of both public and private organizations to address the critical problem of preparing our keiki for school. Working as a community we can truly leverage the benefits of public-private partnerships.

Studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short-term and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. HB 2276 is the foundation to provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also has the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. We urge your favorable consideration of HB 2276.

Sincerely,



Kim Gennaula  
President & Chief Executive Officer



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2014**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room 308**

**RE: RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION – HOUSE BILL 2276**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Kai and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable. The Hawaii Business Roundtable supports HB 2276, to implement, upon its ratification, the amendment to Article X, section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, by establishing a statewide early childhood education program consisting of providers of high-quality early childhood education to assist families in establishing a solid foundation for success in school so that children graduate from high school prepared for college and a career.

We fully support the creation within the early learning system an early childhood education program. The members of the Hawaii Business Roundtable employ thousands of graduates of Hawaii's public school system, and helping children, beginning at an early age is the key to making them successful citizens in our businesses and in our community. Our ability to compete in a global economy starts with employees who have been provided the tools to do so and it all begins at a very early age.

We also believe strongly that focusing on early childhood is critical because development of the architecture of the brain takes place by age five. We need to begin investing early in a child's life, when the brain is in this state of tremendous growth potential. By the time children enter kindergarten, elementary school and high school we are addressing problems and no longer preventing them.

As business people our members understand the high return on investing in children under the age of five which has been well documented nationally and locally. In 2008, the Hawaii Economic Benefits Study of early education for Hawai'i showed that for every \$1 Hawai'i invests in a quality four-year early learning program, the state will receive a return of \$4.20. This return is calculated from less spending on special education, grade retention, and future social services –such as incarceration - plus a more productive, higher paid workforce contributing positively to the state economy.

More importantly, our members are concerned about their employees and their families. They believe that every child should be given the opportunity to succeed and success is easier to create with early childhood programs that provide them with a quality education. We strongly support the public/private delivery system contemplated by the legislation. As previous People's

Pulse polls have shown, over 80% of Hawaii's residents believe in the importance of funding of early learning.

We believe that we are at a critical juncture for our youngest of children. Many of our members themselves are part of the Be My Voice Campaign and the Hawaii Business Roundtable fully supports the Be My Voice Campaign which will help to provide a stronger future for our keikis.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify and we look forward to joining your efforts to improve the lives of our children.

Gary K. Kai, Executive Director  
Hawaii Business Roundtable



96 Pu'uhonu Place  
Hilo, HI 96720  
(808) 935-4304  
(808) 969-7512

www.ahapunanaleo.org

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**Lā Ho'olohe Pila** (Hearing Date/Time): Friday, February 21, 2014 1:00 PM  
**Lumi hālāwai** (Meeting Room) Conference Room 308  
**Kōmike** (Committee) Finance

**Pila** (Bill) HB2276 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
**Kumu** (Purpose): Establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

**Mana'o** (Position): Kāko'o (Support)

Aloha e ka Lunaho'omalu 'o Sylvia Luke a me nā Hope Lunaho'omalu 'o Scott Nishimoto lāua 'o Aaron Ling Johanson, a me nā lālā o ke Kōmike Ho'olako.

Aloha Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and members of the House Finance Committee

'O au 'o 'Ekekela Aiona, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo.  
My name is 'Ekekela Aiona, Executive Director, 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

Mahalo for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of HB2276 which establishes an Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System for Hawai'i in either of Hawai'i's two official languages. An early learning experience can help children from all homes and especially those from economically disadvantaged homes and communities in providing environments of active engagement in social and cognitive development. Early learning experiences for children and families in Hawai'i's official language, Hawaiian, is a necessary part of Hawai'i's unique status as a state with two official languages as well as an advantage in language acquisition at the most crucial time of brain development for children.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is the only statewide provider of early education and care through the medium of Hawaiian. We are connected to a statewide P-20 Hawaiian Medium Education system. We have 11 statewide full day, year round preschools. They are located on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i. Our keiki are prepared to enter papa mālaa'o Hawaiian medium kindergarten programs in the DOE as well as public charter schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Mahalo nui

*Oh. Ekekela Aiona*

February 19, 2014  
Hearing on Wednesday, February 21, 2014 at 1 p.m.  
Committee on Finance  
House Conference Room 308  
In support of HB2276

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Celia Chang Takahashi and I am an Early Childhood Professional and the mother of two young children.

I am writing this testimony to ask for your support of HB2276 relating to early childhood education, as it establishes an Early Child Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

We have a plethora of research that demonstrates the benefits quality early learning experiences have on young children, including a high financial return on early learning investment. According to the Good Beginnings Alliance, for every \$1 invested in quality early learning programs, Hawaii receives an approximate \$4.20 return on investment. This return on investment includes, but is not limited to, higher retention rates; lower teen pregnancy/parent rates; higher college entrance numbers; and less money spent on incarceration.

Investing in a statewide Early Childhood Education Program makes economic sense for our current workforce (i.e., working parents have access to quality care that they can afford making them better functioning employees, as well as creating jobs for early childhood care professionals) as well as our future workforce (i.e., higher graduation rates, students successfully attending four-year colleges more often, holding jobs longer, and having higher lifetime earnings).

In addition to improving their personal economic value (i.e., higher wages), preschool education has a direct impact on society's financial future (i.e., individuals who earn more money, spend more money).

Since the most brain development takes place between birth & age five it only makes sense to invest money in the creation and continual funding & implementation a statewide Early Childhood Education Program.

It is time for all of Hawaii's residents to view a statewide early learning program *not as an expense but an investment*. When we invest in the creation of an early learning program, we invest in Hawaii's future

If we want Hawaii to be the Aloha State, we need to show Aloha to our youngest residents by investing in their education upfront. Creating an early learning program that is voluntary that offers families a variety of choices is a wise decision. It is the right decision.

The time to invest in our keiki is now. Hawaii cannot wait any longer. The Aloha State deserves better. *Our keiki deserve better.*

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB2276.



## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Cindy Jakubczak <cindy@mfss.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:31 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Cindy Jakubczak from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cindy@mfss.org

First Name: Cindy

Last Name: Jakubczak

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Friday, February 21, 2014, 1:00 p.m  
Conference Room 308

by

Donald B. Young  
Personal Testimony

HB 2276 HD1 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee on Finance

My name is Donald Young. I am the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and co-chair your Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC).

On behalf of the College of Education, I support HB 2276. We have long anticipated the State commitment to improving early learning opportunities for our children and within the College we have shifted internal resources to be ready to meet the increase in workforce demands. We have increased the number of our tenure track faculty with expertise in early childhood education, building capacity to better prepare teachers who are ready to provide age-appropriate early childhood education. We have created new programs to prepare early learning teachers and leaders.

In 2013, the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee prepared a position statement relevant to HB 2276. The TECC members, representing the following education organizations, unanimously support this position statement.

Hawai'i State Department of Education  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Education  
University of Hawai'i West Oahu Division of Education  
University of Hawai'i Hilo Department of Education  
University of Hawai'i Hilo Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education  
University of Hawai'i Honolulu Community College Early Childhood Education  
University of Hawai'i Leeward Community College AAT Program  
Brigham Young University School of Education  
Chaminade University Education Division  
Hawai'i Pacific University School of Education  
Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board  
Teach for America  
University of Phoenix College of Education  
Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education

The position statement follows.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**TEACHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMITTEE (TECC)  
POSITION STATEMENT ON  
COMMITTING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

It is time for the State of Hawai‘i to commit funding for early childhood education. Hawai‘i is one of only 11 states without state-funded preschool. Yet the research is clear that laying a strong foundation for our youth through high quality preschool programs will result in productive and capable citizens. A recent study in Hawai‘i found that every \$1 invested in early education returns \$4.20 in future social program savings. We have spent years studying the issues. We know what the right thing to do is. Now is the time to do it.

The newly established Executive Office of Early Learning in the Governor’s Office is recommending a course for early learning that is revolutionary. The proposed Early Learning Program has a developmentally appropriate focus on the whole child, bringing education, social services, and health together to increase child success. Unlike older children or adults, young children need comprehensive, multi-dimensional services that exist on a continuum—from birth to at least 8 years of age—so that they can accomplish the tasks of development and learning important in the early years and are fully prepared for further learning in elementary, middle and high schools, postsecondary education and beyond.

The TECC supports the overarching principles of the proposed program. Affordable access to high quality early learning programs must be available to all children, regardless of socio-economic status, race or geographic location. Families must be engaged in the learning of their keiki and participate in the financing of the program; the plan must embrace public and private providers.

Research has shown that young children achieve better learning outcomes when they have teachers and caregivers with specialized preparation and on-going professional development in early childhood education. The TECC is committed to supporting the preparation, professional development, credentialing and licensing of early childhood professionals in a state-supported preschool system. We firmly believe that standards for professionals should remain high and that every child deserves a high-quality early learning setting. TECC members have programs in place and the capacity to address emerging State needs as the Legislature and institutions commit to universal early childhood education. Moreover, we support the Program’s plan to provide joint professional development and assistance to early childhood providers and educators in this public-private partnership.

We all need to pull together and support early education for all of Hawai‘i’s keiki. We ask that this year’s legislature support early childhood education by funding preschool for all four-year-olds beginning in 2014.

\*\*\*\*\*

About the TECC

The Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) is a statewide advisory committee created in HRS 304A-1202. Its membership consists of representatives of every institution of higher education that prepares teachers for the State’s schools, the Hawai‘i Department of Education, and the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board. In its monthly meeting, the TECC identifies, studies, acts, and makes recommendations on matters of education of common interest to the Hawai‘i State Department of Education.

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Corey Woolfolk <coreywoolfolk@hormail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:29 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Corey Woolfolk from East Palo Alto, CA writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): coreywoolfolk@hormail.com

First Name: Corey

Last Name: Woolfolk

City: East Palo Alto

State: CA

ZIP Code: 94303

## finance1

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**From:** Leona Watson <leonaw@inpeace.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 10:34 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Leona Watson from Waianae, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Please support our Family Child interactive learning programs too. Being apart of a Parent Participation preschool allowed myself to become my child's first teacher. Also I am able to provide my children with the education tools to become a successful student.

Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): leonaw@inpeace.org

First Name: Leona

Last Name: Watson

City: Waianae

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96792

From: Justin Walthall <jwalthall@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:34 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Justin Walthall from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jwalthall@gmail.com

First Name: Justin

Last Name: Walthall

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816

## finance1

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**From:** Lisa Uyehara <eeclisa@hawaiiintel.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:03 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Lisa Uyehara from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): eeclisa@hawaiiintel.net

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Uyehara

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96825

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Casey Souza <cj011203@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:15 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Casey Souza from Hilo, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cj011203@gmail.com

First Name: Casey

Last Name: Souza

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720



From: Deanna Smith <deannas@inpeace.org>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:23 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Deanna Smith from Waianae, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): deannas@inpeace.org

First Name: Deanna

Last Name: Smith

City: Waianae  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96792

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Teri Skillman <hautree77@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:22 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Teri Skillman from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): hautree77@aol.com

First Name: Teri

Last Name: Skillman

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96819

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Lorraine Shimauchi <shimauchk001@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:57 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Lorraine Shimauchi from Lihue, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): shimauchk001@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Lorraine

Last Name: Shimauchi

City: Lihue

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96766

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** James Saito <saitojam@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:21 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

James Saito from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I strongly believe in expanding our Public Education to Early Learning. It's widely understood that many of our student have learning gaps/deficits. Early Learning can start building skills for the keiki, so that more of our Elementary students will start out at or above grade level. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): saitojam@gmail.com

First Name: James

Last Name: Saito

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96822

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Christy Ryan <christy.ryan@ricoh-usa.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:37 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Christy Ryan from Wahiawa, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson,

I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2.

Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn.

Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future.

Mahalo!!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): christy.ryan@ricoh-usa.com

First Name: Christy

Last Name: Ryan

City: Wahiawa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96786

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Lisa Pakele <pakelek@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:51 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Lisa Pakele from Kapolei, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): pakelek@aol.com

First Name: Lisa

Last Name: Pakele

City: Kapolei

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Pono Paahao <paahaoudoin@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:36 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Pono Paahao from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): paahaoudoin@hotmail.com

First Name: Pono

Last Name: Paahao

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96821



From: Cathy Ogawa <cogawa@stanfordalumni.org>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:34 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in strong support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Cathy Ogawa from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am a former preschool teacher and preschool director and I am writing in strong support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cogawa@stanfordalumni.org

First Name: Cathy

Last Name: Ogawa

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96822

February 19, 2014  
Hearing on Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1 p.m.  
House Finance Committee  
House Conference Room 308  
In support of HB2276

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Phyllis Ida and I am a retired DOE Special Educator, and the former 619 Coordinator for the Windward District. I also over see the grant administration for the Windward District P-3 Demonstration Project that focuses on keiki reading on grade level by third grade, providing a model program of seamless early learning experiences from early childhood programs through elementary school for young children in the Windward District.

I am writing this testimony to ask for your support of HB2276 relating to early childhood education, as it establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Research has documented that brain development takes place between birth & age five. This amazing growth & development is why we believe it is imperative for our state to invest funds to create an Early Childhood Education Program for our state.

In 2008 Good Beginnings Alliance, a non-profit advocacy organization, conducted an economic analysis. In it they calculated a return on investment of \$4.20 for every \$1 invested in a statewide early learning program for Hawaii.

Because screening is a vital component to child development and school readiness, in addition to all of the items outlined in HB2276, **we would like to request that the school readiness services made available to assist families include, but not be limited to, developmental, vision, and hearing screening.** When children are properly diagnosed through early screenings we increase their chances to succeed in kindergarten because their developmental needs have been identified early, giving their family and practitioners appropriate time to provide them with the tools they need to succeed in life long learning.

There is a need for this particular measure in order for the state to proceed with its educational plan for Hawaii's young children. It is time for us to seriously *invest* in Hawaii's future by investing in its keiki.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB2276.

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** F Nishimoto <fkn01@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 3:58 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

F Nishimoto from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): fkn01@hotmail.com

First Name: F

Last Name: Nishimoto

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96815

**finance1**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 9:58 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** nakoolaniw@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2276 on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM

**HB2276**

Submitted on: 2/19/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
nakoolani	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of Early Childhood Education HB2276 which will help Hawai'i's families by establishing a statewide early childhood education program consisting of providers of high-quality early childhood education delivered in either of Hawai'i's two official languages. Quality preschool education will assist families in establishing a solid foundation for their children to succeed in school and in life. Mahalo for supporting Hawai'i's families by supporting HB2276.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

From: Brooke Nakamura <brookeakie@aol.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:24 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Brooke Nakamura from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): brookeakie@aol.com

First Name: Brooke

Last Name: Nakamura

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96822

From: Gerald Mitchell <babykgm@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:39 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Gerald Mitchell from New York, NY writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): babykgm@hotmail.com

First Name: Gerald

Last Name: Mitchell

City: New York  
State: NY  
ZIP Code: 10003

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Candice Miller <candim412@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:30 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Candice Miller from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): candim412@yahoo.com

First Name: Candice

Last Name: Miller

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96823

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** C. Momi Medeiros <momi@mfss.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:08 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

C. Momi Medeiros from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): momi@mfss.org

First Name: C. Momi

Last Name: Medeiros

City: Wailuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96793



From: Catherine Medeiros <momi@mfss.org>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:07 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Catherine Medeiros from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): momi@mfss.org

First Name: Catherine

Last Name: Medeiros

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

From: Gale McNish <gale.mcnish@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:37 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Gale McNish from Makawao, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gale.mcnish@gmail.com

First Name: Gale

Last Name: McNish

City: Makawao  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96768

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Marya Mann <marya.mann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:07 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Marya Mann from Kailua Kona, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): marya.mann@gmail.com

First Name: Marya

Last Name: Mann

City: Kailua Kona  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96745

## finance1

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**From:** Dorothy Mahoney <kaikilani58@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:14 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Dorothy Mahoney from Kahuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kaikilani58@gmail.com

First Name: Dorothy

Last Name: Mahoney

City: Kahuku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96731

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** lacie maemori <lacie.staradv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:43 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

lacie maemori from honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lacie.staradv@gmail.com

First Name: lacie

Last Name: maemori

City: honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96818

## finance8-Danyl

---

**From:** isaac kosasa <ikoasa@fcoh.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:57 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

isaac kosasa from aiea, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ikoasa@fcoh.com

First Name: isaac

Last Name: kosasa

City: aiea

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96701

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Maureen Langberg <maureenlangberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:59 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Maureen Langberg from Kealakekua, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): maureenlangberg@gmail.com

First Name: Maureen

Last Name: Langberg

City: Kealakekua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96750

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Heeyeon Kim <kim.usa@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:40 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Heeyeon Kim from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kim.usa@gmail.com

First Name: Heeyeon

Last Name: Kim

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816



## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Audrey Kido <aujkido@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:56 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Audrey Kido from Kailua, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [aujkido@aol.com](mailto:aujkido@aol.com)

First Name: Audrey

Last Name: Kido

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Mitchell Kido <aujkido@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:57 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Mitchell Kido from Kailua, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [aujkido@gmail.com](mailto:aujkido@gmail.com)

First Name: Mitchell

Last Name: Kido

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734

## finance1

---

**From:** Ku'ulani Keohokalole <kuukeoho@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:19 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Ku'ulani Keohokalole from Kaneohe, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson,

As a mother of two young children ages 3 years old and 9 months, I am writing in strong support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2.

Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo nui loa!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kuukeoho@gmail.com

First Name: Ku'ulani

Last Name: Keohokalole

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



## finance1

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**From:** Jarrett Keohokalole <jkeoho@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:19 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Jarrett Keohokalole from Kaneohe, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson,

As a father of two young children ages 3 years old and 9 months, I am writing in strong support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2.

Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo nui loa!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jkeoho@gmail.com

First Name: Jarrett

Last Name: Keohokalole

City: Kaneohe

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96744



From: marsha jones <mauigirl1978@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:25 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

marsha jones from wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mauigirl1978@yahoo.com

First Name: marsha

Last Name: jones

City: wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** kathi jones <kaikea777@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:55 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

kathi jones from haiku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kaikea777@yahoo.com

First Name: kathi

Last Name: jones

City: haiku

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96708



From: Cynthia Izumi <cizumi50@hawaii.rr.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:50 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Cynthia Izumi from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cizumi50@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Cynthia

Last Name: Izumi

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96822

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Darren Imada <dimada0419@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:39 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Darren Imada from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dimada0419@gmail.com

First Name: Darren

Last Name: Imada

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Joy Imada <yoji\_1545@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 12:04 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Joy Imada from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): yoji\_1545@hotmail.com

First Name: Joy

Last Name: Imada

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Ashley Ikeda <aiked@unioncounsel.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:51 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Ashley Ikeda from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): aiked@unioncounsel.net

First Name: Ashley

Last Name: Ikeda

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96822

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** sam hugh <samh@hamproduceandseafood.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:45 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

sam hugh from honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): samh@hamproduceandseafood.com

First Name: sam

Last Name: hugh

City: honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96819

From: Malia Hosino <malia@mfss.org>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:25 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Malia Hosino from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): malia@mfss.org

First Name: Malia

Last Name: Hosino

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

## finance8-Danyl

---

**From:** Traci Hisatake <traci@mfss.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:38 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Traci Hisatake from Makawao, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): traci@mfss.org

First Name: Traci

Last Name: Hisatake

City: Makawao  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96768

From: Lynell Gonsalves <kuiipo@mfss.org>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:27 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Lynell Gonsalves from Kula, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. I believe we can make a difference in a child's life by giving them tools and services which allow them to succeed in the future. Please help by giving money to early learning programs that continue to help the communities. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kuiipo@mfss.org

First Name: Lynell

Last Name: Gonsalves

City: Kula

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96790



## finance1

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**From:** Kaleo Francisco <punakalo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:14 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Kaleo Francisco from Pahoia, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): punakalo@gmail.com

First Name: Kaleo

Last Name: Francisco

City: Pahoia

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96778

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** CRISTINA FELIPE <mfelipe@queens.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:38 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

CRISTINA FELIPE from EWA BEACH, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mfelipe@queens.org

First Name: CRISTINA

Last Name: FELIPE

City: EWA BEACH  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96706

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:06 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: jfarnsworth@hawaii.rr.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2276 on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM

**HB2276**

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
JoAnn Farnsworth	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I testify in support of the establishment of the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

## finance1

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**From:** Renee Espiau <reneeespiau@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:02 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Renee Espiau from H, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): reneeespiau@hotmail.com

First Name: Renee

Last Name: Espiau

City: H

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96816

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Jennifer Dunne <jfogliani@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:32 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Jennifer Dunne from Sunnyvale, CA writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jfogliani@yahoo.com

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Dunne

City: Sunnyvale  
State: CA  
ZIP Code: 94087

## finance1

---

**From:** Jackie Dudock <jdudock@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 5:26 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Jackie Dudock from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jdudock@gmail.com

First Name: Jackie

Last Name: Dudock

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96824-0029

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Vicki Draeger <vickid43@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:49 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Vicki Draeger from Kula, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): vickid43@yahoo.com

First Name: Vicki

Last Name: Draeger

City: Kula

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96790

## finance1

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**From:** Robin Dickson <robin@mfss.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:03 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Robin Dickson from Waiiluku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

Robin Dickson

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): robin@mfss.org

First Name: Robin

Last Name: Dickson

City: Waiiluku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793



From: Ana Diaz <diaz@mauigateway.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:31 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Ana Diaz from Paia, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): diaz@mauigateway.com

First Name: Ana

Last Name: Diaz

City: Paia

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96779

From: Shaley DeGiorgio <shaley@grocken.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:34 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Shaley DeGiorgio from Kaneohe, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

Shaley DeGiorgio

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): shaley@grocken.com

First Name: Shaley

Last Name: DeGiorgio

City: Kaneohe  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96744

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Kelli-Rae Souza <kelliraes@inpeace.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:13 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Kelli-Rae Souza from Hilo, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [kelliraes@inpeace.org](mailto:kelliraes@inpeace.org)

First Name: Kelli-Rae

Last Name: Souza

City: Hilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96720

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Jerry Campany <makakilomoons@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:39 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Jerry Campany from Makakilo, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

I can bear to live without roads, firefighters or even police. But not vital things like early education for our children.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): makakilomoons@yahoo.com

First Name: Jerry

Last Name: Campany

City: Makakilo

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96707

Personal Written Testimony in **Support of H.B. 2276**  
Relating to Early Childhood Education  
House Finance Committee  
February 20, 2014

by, Robyn S. B. Chun

Honorable Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson & Committee Members:

Thank you for your wisdom when it comes to investing in primary intervention efforts that support Hawai'i's youngest keiki. They represent a wise investment in our collective future.

I am testifying in support of **HB 2276** which together with other bills will enable Hawai'i to establish an Early Childhood Education Program that is part of the larger Early Learning System established in section 302L-2 Hawai'i Revised Statutes. The proposed amendments to the Act build on previous legislation and incorporate the contributions from multiple stakeholders. Together they ready the state to implement a mixed-delivery system for children birth through 8-years-old that builds on the strengths and collective resources of our public and community based (private) providers on behalf of our most needy young children and their families.

My work as a teacher in preschools and DOE K-1 classrooms, as family child care provider and teacher educator, and my personal experience as a mother of twins, has impressed upon me the importance of providing each child with a meaningful and culturally relevant early experience that will address each child's physical, cognitive, linguistic, social and emotional development regardless of the child's family circumstances.

With the passage of Strong Start legislation (H.B. 3461) at the federal level, the passage of HB 2276 and others at our state level are essential. They position the state to bid for federal funding that will make it possible to leverage their funds and access federal resources needed to develop an early learning system in Hawai'i. In order to be eligible for grants, states must demonstrate substantial commitment towards developing a plan, showing cross sector collaboration, and providing access to the kinds of quality early learning experiences that will reduce the disparities experienced by homeless children, English language learners, children with disabilities, and other groups who may struggle throughout their educational careers.

Commitments to early learning have already taken place in 40 of the 50 states (The State of Preschool 2012). In a majority of those states, early learning systems are characterized by partnerships that expand access by building upon the resources and flexibility of community based (private) providers and use funds to facilitate cross-sector system building and professional development so that high-quality experiences are integrated across the PK-3 spectrum (Hustedt & Barnett, 2011). With a growing number of our children living in poverty (17%) and nearly half of our keiki entering kindergarten without the opportunity afforded by PreK experiences (48%), this is a critical year to demonstrate the fiscal commitment to early learning that will enable us to access Strong Start funding (Kids Count Hawai'i, 2013).

The Executive Office on Early Learning has demonstrated leadership in coordinating partners on behalf of children. It is building upon years of effort on behalf of many groups and will assure that we move forward drawing from the wisdom and expertise of representatives of our island community and field as we design and implement an early learning system where:

- each young child is assured of a strong foundation so that s/he may succeed educationally and in life,
- families and communities are supported and empowered as partners in assuring their keiki succeed as lifelong learners and contributing members of our communities and society; and,
- there are culturally and geographically responsive program options to address the needs and concerns of our most vulnerable keiki and families.

I support incorporating of quality standards that focus on as positive teacher-child interactions and commitments to family engagement as essential components of a sound early childhood program. I also support the value of assessments that will take into account all developmental domains and which facilitate continuity of each child's experience across birth – 8 settings with the caveat that we must provide practitioners and programs with the professional development resources and support needed to be able to assess children and evaluate programs using ethically responsible methods that respect and honor each child's individual and cultural uniqueness. We shall also need to nurture in our practitioners the ability to use formative assessment to inform meaningful, integrated, content rich and child centered curriculum that supports all areas of development and provides a strong foundation for later educational experiences.

We cannot expect to raise the quality of care in a field marked by woefully inadequate compensation if we do not adequately fund workforce development. Raising the level of practice will only happen if we provide the supports necessary so that more than 18% of our kindergarten teachers have obtained the knowledge and skills embedded in a PK-3 license and we provide the financial incentive and educational opportunities required to recruit and retain birth – PK providers across settings that have a baccalaureate degree with specialized training in child development and early childhood education (HSRRA, 2013-2014; Buchinal, Cryer, Clifford, & Howes, 2002; Early et. al, 2007).

The field of early childhood education has existed for many years without a steady funding base and as a result is characterized by difficulty retaining and growing a highly skilled workforce. As a teacher educator, I am mindful of the investment needed to provide for an adequate infrastructure that results in high quality programs. In order to ensure children can benefit from the kind of quality early learning experiences that can lead to lifelong positive outcomes, I hope that adequate funding will be designated to support all early educators in their professional development needs, to create career and educational pathways for the field, and to attract and retain a highly trained workforce. Without adequate coordination and investment in an infrastructure that can lead to a comprehensive and integrated early learning system, we cannot expect results.

Preparing our children for the future means, in part, investing in their well-being from the start. This bill represents a positive step forward in helping Hawaii's families provide for their keiki during the early childhood years (birth through age 8 years). It creates an opportunity for shared leadership that listens to and reflects the needs, wisdom, and expertise of our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of H.B. 2276.**

## finance1

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**From:** Derek Ching <dchingd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:00 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Derek Ching from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

I am a local pediatrician in Honolulu and feel that this is very important. In our practice there have been countless success stories from parents who have utilized the 0-3 program. These programs help lay the foundation for a healthy beginning for our keiki which in turn will save us more money in the future!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dchingd@gmail.com

First Name: Derek

Last Name: Ching

City: Honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96826-1081



finance1

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From: Stephanie Char <stephc@hawaii.rr.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 2:58 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Stephanie Char from Mililani, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. I am a Grandmother who has a grandson in SPECIAL ED who needs more time to develop his vocabulary. Early learning is VITAL for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): stephc@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Stephanie

Last Name: Char

City: Mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 2276, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

RE: HB 2276 Relating to Early Childhood Education

HEARING DATE: Friday, February 21, 2014, 1:00 PM  
House Conference Room 208

My name is Ashley Canillo and as a concerned citizen I am thankful for the opportunity to submit a testimony in support of HB 2276. House Bill 2276 establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2, HRS.

While I am not a parent at this time, I strongly feel urge the Committee to move this bill forward as I feel that it is important for children and their families to have the opportunity to participate in quality early childhood education that could better prepare them for the future. Having previously worked with at-risk families of children between the ages of 0-3, I saw the need as well as the importance of early childhood education. These children, as well as their parents have a thirst for knowledge but did not have the means, educationally and financially, to continue to support this thirst for knowledge. Studies and research have shown that when provided the opportunity to quality early childhood education, children are more likely to succeed and grow into capable adults later in life. Early childhood education gives children that boost and motivation to learn, which will carry them far through life.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my support for HB 2276 as I feel that every child should have the opportunity to learn, grow, and prosper through early childhood education.

Sincerely,  
Ashley Canillo  
acanillo@hawaii.edu

finance1

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From: Cartoon Bunming <c-bunming@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 8:47 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Cartoon Bunming from Waipahu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): c-bunming@hotmail.com

First Name: Cartoon

Last Name: Bunming

City: Waipahu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96797-3172

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Jennifer Bryant <jbryant@kahpreschool.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:34 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Jennifer Bryant from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): [jbryant@kahpreschool.org](mailto:jbryant@kahpreschool.org)

First Name: Jennifer

Last Name: Bryant

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96826

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** trevor benn <twbenn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:35 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

trevor benn from honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): twbenn@yahoo.com

First Name: trevor

Last Name: benn

City: honolulu

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96817

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** claire bailey <cbailey@wcchc.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:46 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

claire bailey from waianae, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cbailey@wcchc.com

First Name: claire

Last Name: bailey

City: waianae  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96792

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Diane Arconado <dijaco888@hawaii.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:27 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Diane Arconado from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dijaco888@hawaii.rr.com

First Name: Diane

Last Name: Arconado

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

## finance8-Danyl

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**From:** Leah Yamamoto <yamamoto.leah@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 4:19 AM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Leah Yamamoto from Kailua, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): yamamoto.leah@gmail.com

First Name: Leah

Last Name: Yamamoto

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734





From: Kahea Kauhi <teahk96795@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 11:03 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Kahea Kauhi from Waimanalo, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): teahk96795@yahoo.com

First Name: Kahea

Last Name: Kauhi

City: Waimanalo  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96795

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: aveave4nyah@msn.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:52 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Kaleo Aki  
39 Waiea Place  
Hilo, HI 96720-1925

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Kaleo Aki

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: tricia.grant@gmail.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:47 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Tricia Beaman  
718 10th Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96816-2279

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

I believe in quality early childhood education in the public schools that is supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Tricia Beaman  
8083541065

**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 10:15 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: plbhawaii@me.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2276 on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM

**HB2276**

Submitted on: 2/21/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Paula Bonham	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe in early childhood education only if it is a quality program with qualified teachers. Otherwise it just becomes baby sitting - very expensive baby sitting! I do not want my taxes to go up for a program with no quality guarantees.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



From: Daniel Gardner <daniel.dano.gardner@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 10:38 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Daniel Gardner from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in strong support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorize the Executive Office on Early Learning to enter into agreements with the Department of Education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): daniel.dano.gardner@gmail.com

First Name: Daniel

Last Name: Gardner

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96821

From: Terri Yoshinaga <mztee22@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:47 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Terri Yoshinaga from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mztee22@hotmail.com

First Name: Terri

Last Name: Yoshinaga

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96822

**LATE**

From: Chelsie Wong <chelsiefujimura@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:32 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Chelsie Wong from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): chelsiefujimura@gmail.com

First Name: Chelsie

Last Name: Wong

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816

**LATE**

From: Sharon Tsai <sharontsai@aol.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:38 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Sharon Tsai from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sharontsai@aol.com

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Tsai

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816



From: Kalani Thanee <kcthanee@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:48 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Kalani Thanee from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kcthanee@yahoo.com

First Name: Kalani

Last Name: Thanee

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96818

finance1

---

From: puananig@yahoo.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:02 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



Evette Tampos  
P.O. 6279  
Hilo, HI 96720

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

Aloha My Legislators,

My name is Evette Tampos and I am a school counselor at Pahoa Elementary School. I oppose HB 2276 for the following reason: \* Our Hawaii public schools should have MANDATORY kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws BEFORE a new project is started.

I urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools to address our current concerns of supporting licensed teachers, quality resources, upkeep of our facilities and attaining the tools that our students need to be successful.

I do believe in quality early childhood education too but not at the expense of underfunding our current public school needs.

As the House Finance Committee, I urge you to not support HB2276. We cannot afford to throw our tax money into this project at this time while the rest of the DOE still needs proper funding to meet current and past needs.

Sincerely,

Evette Tampos  
808-990-7573

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: rstewart99489@hawaii.rr.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:02 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Roxane Stewart  
1889-A Kilauea Ave.  
Hilo, HI 96720-5059

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Roxane Stewart  
8089810270

**LATE**

finance8-Danyl

---

From: christina sekiya <christina\_sekiya@notes.k12.hi.us>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 5:49 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

christina sekiya from pearl city, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. As a kindergarten classroom teacher, I fully understand and see the impact that early learning can provide for our children. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): christina\_sekiya@notes.k12.hi.us

First Name: christina

Last Name: sekiya

City: pearl city  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96782

**LATE**

From: Patty Paranada <patty@mfss.org>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 5:07 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Patty Paranada from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): patty@mfss.org

First Name: Patty

Last Name: Paranada

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793



From: lokitahsta@gmail.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:52 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Logan Okita  
1914 10th Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816-2910

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

As a former kindergarten teacher, current first grade teacher, and Nationally Board Certified Teacher (Early Childhood Generalist), I believe in the power that early childhood education has on developing a strong foundation for successful school experiences and lifelong learning, however we cannot say that early childhood education is important and valued if we do not require students to attend kindergarten. We need to fix what is in place before we build a stronger foundation.

With the current academic expectations implemented by the Common Core State Standards, students who do not attend kindergarten regularly or are not enrolled in kindergarten, have a great deal to catch up on in order to be successful in first grade and beyond.

Sincerely,

Logan Okita  
8083845595

finance1

---

From: 1oahuprincess@gmail.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:07 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



Deborah Morrow  
563 Paulele Street  
Kailua, HI 96734-3547

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

Hello. My name is Deborah Morrow, and I teach special education preschool in a public school setting at Kailua Elementary School as a DOE teacher.

I oppose the use of public funds toward private education. I say this as a young mother of four children with one child enrolled and attending private preschool. As a preschool teacher myself, I recognize the importance of preschool, but as a DOE teacher, I struggle just to get classroom materials to properly educate my students. I spend on average \$1,000 of personal money a year for materials and field trip opportunities for my students because the Department of Education is so grossly underfunded. We fundraise the whole school year long to afford extra staff on campus to create valuable programs for the children, like art classes, music classes, and physical education classes. I feel that we need to keep public funds directed at the public school system. If we truly value preschool and desire to fund it with public tax dollars, we should put preschool under the umbrella of the Department of Education.

Private school is a choice. Unfortunately, right now, unless your child has special needs, it is the only choice parents have, because the DOE does not service the preschool grade level. But it is a choice. And my tax dollars should not be donated to parents who wish for their children to attend private school, when I'm struggling to afford my own children's education and donating large sums of hard-earned personal money to supply materials and opportunities for the public school students in my class.

Thank you for considering my testimony and I hope you will oppose this bill and consider directing public monies toward the public schools that desperately need it.

Sincerely,

Deborah Morrow  
(808) 368-5620

**LATE**

From: boolahboy@aol.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 4:57 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Alicia Miyashiro  
4450 Iliwai Street  
Lihue, HI 96766-9038

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. As a teacher who has taught Kindergarten, I know from first-hand experience how important it is for our keiki at this age to be immersed in literacy and provided with structured learning that happens in a school setting.

Kindergarten is such a crucial foundation for a child's future learning.

As an educator and a parent I urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Alicia Miyashiro  
(808) 651-8810



finance1

---

From: kristim808@gmail.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 8:52 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



Kristi Miyamae  
1441 Hoohulu Street  
Pearl City, HI 96782-2917

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

Dear Legislators,

I am a teacher at Mililani Middle School. I am opposed to HB2276 and ask for your considerable favor to oppose it as well. HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Kristi Miyamae

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: robinhilo@hotmail.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 4:52 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Robin Miller  
165-A Hukulani Street  
Hilo, HI 96720-6700

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Robin Miller

**FIN-Jo**

---

**LATE**

**From:** dabuel247@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 5:02 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** FEB 21: HB2276

Dwayne ABuel  
94-1053 Leomana Pl.  
Waipahu, HI 96797-4079

February 20, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Dwayne ABuel  
(808)6762102

finance1

---

From: fbellinger@gmail.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:47 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



F. Bellinger  
46-155 Kamehameha Highway  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-3651

February 20, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten

in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started.

We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

For All Hawaii Children's Future,

F. Bellinger

finance1

**LATE**

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:23 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: lorrainebennett@yahoo.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2276 on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM

**HB2276**

Submitted on: 2/20/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 21, 2014 13:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lorraine Bennett	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support this measure for our children.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

finance1

---

From: annieckcross@gmail.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:27 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

**LATE**

Anne Cross  
PO Box 125  
Hakalau, HI 96710-0125

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

As an elementary school teacher and a parent of an infant, I believe in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Anne CK Cross  
8089375671

**FIN-Jo**

**LATE**

**From:** roeleno@juno.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 5:42 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** HB2276 Constitutional Amendment

Romeo Eleno  
PO Box 630266  
Lanai City, HI 96763-0266

February 20, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

Dear House Finance Committee,

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful.

If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Look at the whole picture and fully fund the kindergarten program before starting up something new, this is simply common sense. As a dedicated teacher in the public school system, I ask you to to strongly oppose HB2276. Join the teachers in opposition to this bill.

Sincerely,

Romeo Eleno  
8082232482

finance1

---

From: jae03753@yahoo.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:07 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



John Epstein  
92-1047 Koio Dr, Villa D  
Kapolei, HI 96707

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

John Epstein  
808-226-5656



**LATE**

port of:  
Childhood Education

e on Finance

Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and Members of the Committee

of HB2276 as it will increase the state's capacity and responsibility  
in providing services to Hawaii's young children, which is needed immedi-  
ately for 100 children being ineligible for Kindergarten beginning in SY 2014.

Director of an early childhood education project in Wai'anae serv-  
ing families, many of whom will have no feasible alternative, once the ch-  
ildren enter Kindergarten.

in agreement with the decision to raise the age of entry into Kin-  
dergarten, the state should fund Early Childhood Education program, *but only in addition to*  
*the current program, not at the expense of eliminating Kindergarten services to*  
children. There is now a critical need for these children to have access to high qua-  
lity preschool services. The state clearly does not yet have the capacity to serve *all*  
children. It is therefore imperative that we harness all public and private reso-  
urces to provide quality preschool services.

Hawaii forward in making necessary investments in our young chi-  
ldren, ensuring our most vulnerable children displaced by the older Kindergar-  
ten receive the necessary components of quality programming, which res-  
ults in a high return on our investment and assures better child outcomes.

to move in the direction of service for our keiki, and provide them  
the opportunity to thrive in our every changing society.

the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

ct

finance1

---

From: sfreitag@hawaii.rr.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:27 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



Teri Freitag  
p.o. box 601  
Eleele, HI 96705-0601

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Teri Freitag

**LATE**



February 20, 2014

TO: Chair Sylvia Luke  
Vice-Chair Scott Nishimoto  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

FROM: Deborah Zysman  
Good Beginnings Alliance

RE: **Support for HB2276: RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.**

The Good Beginnings Alliance **supports HB2276**, which would implement, upon the ratification, the amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, a statewide early childhood education program. GBA has been a strong supporter of efforts to expand access to early learning opportunities to families and their keiki for the past decade; HB2276 will provide the foundation on which to build the early learning system Hawaii needs and deserves.

There is no debate that exposure to early learning opportunities, including preschool, can have long lasting positive influence on children. We know, for example, that over 85% of a child's brain is developed by the age of five. Moreover, we know that almost 50% of Hawaii's four-year-olds receive little or no formal school readiness experience before entering kindergarten. Despite positive advances over the past two year, Hawaii still remains one of less than a dozen states without a statewide early childhood education program. Ultimately, this means that our Department of Education (DOE) system must devote time and resources to bringing these children up to speed with their counterparts who have had some form of early learning experience. By investing in our four-year-olds early, we help save our DOE system, and teachers, time and money.

SB2276 would provide a blueprint to guide our state in creating a statewide community early learning system that incorporates multiple delivery systems, including family-child interactive learning (FCIL) programs and center-based programs, and will utilize existing high-quality non-profit community preschools and preschools that exist in some Department of Education schools. This proposal is the most cost effective, financially practical, delivery system that our state can provide at this time.

This bill would also ensure that Hawaii is able to compete for federal funds specifically for early learning programs, including the \$250 million new state preschool competitive grant program that was part of the recent bipartisan appropriations bill passed by Congress and signed by President Obama.

Most importantly this bill would provide hope to the thousands of families across Hawaii, lower and middle-income, who desperately need a little help to afford to send their keiki to preschool. Our families pay some of the highest costs for early learning services in the country – in some cases over

\$800/month. This bill helps demonstrate our state's commitment to finally making early learning a reality and affordable to more families.

GBA strongly supports the passage of HB2276 and the equitable, high-quality, statewide community early learning system that Hawaii's keiki desperately deserve.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Zysman  
Executive Director  
Good Beginnings Alliance

**LATE**

From: H@SH HAYASHI <hayashi@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:33 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

H@SH HAYASHI from Waipahu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): hayashi@yahoo.com

First Name: H@SH

Last Name: HAYASHI

City: Waipahu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96797



841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

February 21, 2014

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for HB2276, establishing the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition supports the establishment of a statewide Early Childhood Education Program within the State Early Learning System, and the financial appropriation to support the program. We agree that offering various options to families, involving public-private partnerships in early learning to best utilize existing resources, including family-child interaction early learning programs, and also using underutilized facilities at our public schools for early education programs, provides a range of choices for quality early learning programs.

We have been particularly concerned about the late-born four year olds, who will not be able to attend public Kindergarten from the 2014-2015 year. Two sessions ago, the Coalition testified that we preferred that Junior Kindergarten (JK) not be terminated without a guarantee in law that all "late-born" impacted students will have a state-funded early learning program as a replacement to meet their educational needs. Therefore, we look forward to a comprehensive Early Learning System established by the law.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Member List

Academy 21

After-School All-Stars Hawaii

Alliance for Place Based Learning

\*Castle Complex Community Council

Center for Civic Education

Coalition for Children with Special Needs

\*DOE Windward District

\*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawaii

\*Good Beginnings Alliance

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

\*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

\*Hawai'i Charter School Network

\*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

\*Hawaii State PTSA

Hawai'i State Student Council

Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Hawai'i P-20

Hawai'i 3Rs

Head Start Collaboration Office

It's All About Kids

\*INPEACE

Joint Venture Education Forum

Junior Achievement of Hawaii

Kamehameha Schools

Kanu Hawai'i

Keiki to Career Kaua'i

Kupu A'e

\*Leaders for the Next Generation

Learning First

McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

Our Public School

\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

\*Parents and Children Together

\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i

Punahou School PUEO Program

Teach for America

The Learning Coalition

US PACOM

University of Hawai'i College of Education

YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members (\*)

finance1

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**LATE**

From: jrssioprest@gmail.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:07 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Jessie O'Neill-Prest  
129B Auhana Road  
Kihei, HI 96753-6817

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Jessie O'Neill-Prest  
8082801770



**LATE**

From: Marsha Jones <marsha@mfss.org>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 5:53 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Marsha Jones from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

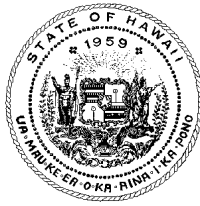
Email 1 (Primary): marsha@mfss.org

First Name: Marsha

Last Name: Jones

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

TED SAKAI  
DIRECTOR

**Martha Torney**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Max Otani**  
Deputy Director  
Corrections

**Shawn Tsuha**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL (HB) 2276  
RELATING TO  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION  
by  
Ted Sakai, Director  
Department of Public Safety

**LATE**

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair  
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Friday, February 21, 2014; 1:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) is in **support** of HB 2276, Relating to Early Childhood Education. This bill establishes an Early Childhood Education Program to advance early learning initiatives for the children of Hawaii.

We believe that there is a relationship between the lack of education and criminality. In Fiscal Year 2013, out of 874 incarcerated adults assessed by PSD, 428 were without a high school diploma. Seventy-five percent of the 428 tested between the third and seventh grade level.

High-quality early childhood education programs using evidence-based methods promotes a solid foundation for student success in school and in adult life, and hopefully, steer them away from a life of crime.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



From: Lorraine Bennett <lorrainebennett@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:20 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Lorraine Bennett from Kapolei, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): lorrainebennett@yahoo.com

First Name: Lorraine

Last Name: Bennett

City: Kapolei  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96707

finance1

---

From: honua@mac.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:17 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

**LATE**

Terry Low  
4762 Hauaala Rd.  
Kapaa, HI 96746-1813

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Terry Low  
808 822-3790

finance1

---

From: jmaeda1227@yahoo.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:22 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

**LATE**

Jodi Maeda  
P.O. Box 604  
Lihue, HI 96766-0604

February 20, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

My name is Jodi Maeda and I am a teacher at Kaua'i High School. I am writing in opposition of HB2276.

While the idea of this preschool initiative sounds good on the surface, I don't believe the big picture has been considered. I do believe that there are quality preschools in the private sector. However, I believe that public taxpayer money should be spent on our public school system. First of all, kindergarten is currently not mandatory - this is where we need to begin investing first. Why are we making a big deal about preschool initiatives when a child could potentially take an entire year off between preschool and first grade and lose all that was gained in those preschool years?

Secondly, this bill implies that private preschools have better qualified teachers and facilities than the public schools. I find that to be far from the truth. The only reason it seems this way is because we don't invest enough in our public schools. If we want quality education for our keiki, we need to invest in our teachers and programs. Instead, this bill is allowing that money to be spent on private providers.

There is nothing wrong with parents choosing to send their child to a private preschool, if that is what they want. However, there is something very wrong with allowing public taxpayer dollars to go towards these private providers, instead of towards the public schools where opportunities exist for ALL children.

Please oppose HB2276 and invest in early childhood opportunities in the public schools - like mandatory kindergarten!  
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Jodi Maeda

finance1

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From: krossman@hawaiiantel.net  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:57 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

**LATE**

Karolyn Mossman  
3359 Lower Kula Road  
Kula, HI 96790-8733

February 20, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If we believe that investing in our children is important, and we do; we must make sure we develop structures that will provide children with education that ensures the staff are qualified, that ensures the curriculum is developmentally appropriate, that ensures that minimum standards of facilities and resources are available, that is free from discrimination and multicultural in its teachings, and that provides accountability for the public funds. This can only be done through a system of public early-childhood programs.

Sincerely,

Karolyn Mossman  
808 878-2982

finance1

---

From: cjpasco@gmail.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:37 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

**LATE**

Colleen Pasco  
P.O. Box 597  
Kapaau, HI 96755-0597

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Constitutional amendments should not be made lightly and all unintended consequences should be carefully considered.

Sincerely,

Colleen Pasco  
808-884-5042

**FIN-Jo**

**LATE**

**From:** kathrynsmith8@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2014 5:02 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Subject:** FEB 21: HB2276

Kathryn Smith  
4465 Emmalani Drive  
Princeville, HI 96722-5417

February 20, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Smith



finance1

**LATE**

From: Stephen Day <sbday72@gmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 6:34 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Stephen Day from New York, NY writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sbday72@gmail.com

First Name: Stephen

Last Name: Day

City: New York  
State: NY  
ZIP Code: 10040

finance1

---

From: rataylor69@yahoo.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 7:27 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



Regina Taylor  
2110 KanekaSt., Apt. 175  
Lihue, HI 96766

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Regina Taylor  
808-652-4651

finance1

---

From: gja100@yahoo.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:22 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



Je Ann Williams  
94-212 Kealohi Street  
Mililani, HI 96789-2633

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Je Ann Williams

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: mikekline999@msn.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 10:22 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Michael Kline  
P.O. Box 1201  
Kilauea, HI 96754-1201

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Michael Kline  
651-9992

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: Noah King <noahking14@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:51 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Noah King from Dublin, CA writes:

I cannot think of a more important priority for Hawaii than to provide the best possible future for her keiki. There is overwhelming evidence of the importance of quality early childhood education and investing in a statewide program would provide the foundation that all of Hawaii's keiki need to continue on as successful students and compete with the rest of the country.

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): noahking14@hotmail.com

First Name: Noah

Last Name: King

City: Dublin

State: CA

ZIP Code: 94568

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: melhei18@aol.com  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:32 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Heidi Hontanosas  
56 288 Maunuunu Pl.  
Kahuku, HI 96731

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Heidi Hontanosas



From: Billy Henson <WESLEYCHILDRENSPROGRAMS@YAHOO.COM>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 6:50 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Billy Henson from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): WESLEYCHILDRENSPROGRAMS@YAHOO.COM

First Name: Billy

Last Name: Henson

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816



## HAWAII COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

February 20, 2014

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Scott Saiki, Vice-Chair  
The Honorable Aaron Johanson, Vice-Chair  
Members of the Committee on Finance  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**LATE**

Dear Chair Luke & Members of the Committee on Finance::

### **HB2276 – HB Relating to Early Childhood Education**

HB 2276 establishes the Early Childhood Education Program. The Hawaii Community Foundation supports this bill. As a statewide charitable foundation, HCF has supported numerous organizations and agencies over the years in their efforts to build and deliver a quality early childhood program. Over that time we have seen compelling evidence of the critical importance of high quality early learning experiences for all children. It is hard to point to another single program that would do more to prepare so many young children for a successful start in school than early education. Children without these experiences regularly arrive at the doors of our kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms unprepared to learn. Quite often these children will struggle and lag behind their peers for years to come. As proposed, the Early Childhood Education Program will require both the public and private sector providers as well as families in order to meet the needs of all children.

HCF encourages your Committee to support the creation of this program for the benefit of all children in Hawai'i

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Christine van Bergeijk  
Vice President and COO



From: Rachel Donahue <droda\_7@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 6:38 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Rachel Donahue from Kaneohe, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): droda\_7@yahoo.com

First Name: Rachel

Last Name: Donahue

City: Kaneohe  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96744



From: Gaynel Buxton <gaynel@hawaii.edu>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 8:49 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Gaynel Buxton from Kailua, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gaynel@hawaii.edu

First Name: Gaynel

Last Name: Buxton

City: Kailua

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96734-2450

From: Peter Bowman <p.bowman@earthlink.net>  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 11:40 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Peter Bowman from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): p.bowman@earthlink.net

First Name: Peter

Last Name: Bowman

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96817

finance8-Danyl

**LATE**

From: georgia\_blas@notes.k12.hi.us  
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 9:37 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Georgia Blas  
94-506 Kaikua Place  
Waipahu, HI 96797-2707

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Georgia Blas

finance1

---

From: beamanwc@hotmail.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 8:37 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276



William Beaman  
718 10th Ave #C  
Honolulu, HI 96816-2279

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

HSTA believes in quality early childhood education in the public schools that are supported by licensed teachers, the resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

William Beaman

**LATE**

From: rendy@hawaii.rr.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 10:22 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Dorenda Perreira  
47-187 Hui Oo Pl.  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-4574

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

Hello. My name is Dorenda Perreira and I am a substitute Educational Assistant and a volunteer at Kailua Elementary School. I strongly oppose the use of tax dollars to fund private pre-school education. I feel that the money is much better spent in the DOE. We do not even have mandatory Kindergarten education so I fail to understand why we are even considering putting money into a private program. As a volunteer I see how much money teachers are spending out of their pocket to make sure the students have even the most essential tools necessary to learn. The classroom receives so little money it is impossible to purchase necessities, much less quality supplies. Pre-school, without a mandated kindergarten, is essentially a choice. Let's put public money where it belongs, in the public classrooms. I feel very strongly that my tax dollars should not go towards funding private education. I hope you consider my testimony in opposition of this bill.

Sincerely,

Dorenda Perreira  
(808) 630-9191



From: Tammy Ruiz <tammy@mfss.org>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 10:10 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Tammy Ruiz from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): tammy@mfss.org

First Name: Tammy

Last Name: Ruiz

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793

From: Stacey White <staceykatakura@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 9:34 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Stacey White from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): staceykatakura@gmail.com

First Name: Stacey

Last Name: White

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96817



**LATE**

From: felicia\_lobos@yahoo.com  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 11:22 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: FEB 21: HB2276

Felicia Villalobos  
4341 Kailewa St.  
Lihue, HI 96766-9412

February 21, 2014

House Finance Committee  
HI

Dear House Finance Committee:

HB2276 - OPPOSE

My name is Felicia Villalobos. I teach first grade on the island of Kauai. I believe in quality early childhood education in the public schools. I believe that all public schools should be supported by licensed teachers, resources, facilities, and tools that our students need to be successful. If early childhood education is a priority, schools should have mandatory kindergarten in Hawaii's compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started. We urge you to value our public schools by targeting tax dollars to serve the children in public schools.

Sincerely,

Felicia Villalobos  
(808) 634-2322



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From: Kacie Cohen <ckdcohen@gmail.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 11:44 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Kacie Cohen from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ckdcohen@gmail.com

First Name: Kacie

Last Name: Cohen

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96817

finance1



From: Jayna Matsukawa <jayna59@msn.com>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 12:00 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Jayna Matsukawa from Honolulu, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

-----  
Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jayna59@msn.com

First Name: Jayna

Last Name: Matsukawa

City: Honolulu  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96816

finance1



From: Leinell Coloma-Nahooikaika <leinell@mfss.org>  
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 1:17 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Subject: Testimony in support of Early Learning Bills (HB1676, HD1 and HB2276)

Leinell Coloma-Nahooikaika from Wailuku, HI writes:

Dear Chair Luke and Vice-Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, I am writing in support of two early learning bills: HB1676, HD1, which authorizes the executive office on early learning to enter into agreements with the department of education and charter schools for use of vacant or underutilized classrooms as public preschool classrooms; and HB2276, which establishes the Early Childhood Education Program within the Early Learning System established by section 302L-2. Last year, the legislature took a giant step towards laying the foundation of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii by funding a school readiness program. The passage of these bills will build upon that foundation and further develop the capacity with both community-based preschools and our public school system required to meet the growing demand for the preschool programs our keiki so desperately need and deserve, as well as establish the assessment tools to ensure our children are prepared and ready to learn. Please support HB1676, HD1 and HB2276 and thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's future. Mahalo!

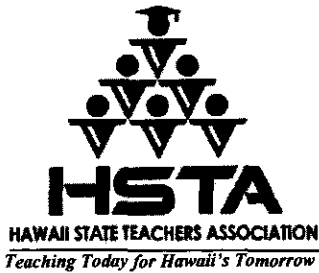
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Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): leinell@mfss.org

First Name: Leinell

Last Name: Coloma-Nahooikaika

City: Wailuku  
State: HI  
ZIP Code: 96793



# LATE TESTIMONY

1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Wil Okabe  
President  
Joan Kamila Lewis  
Vice President  
Colleen Pasco  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Alvin Nagasako  
Executive Director

## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2014

RE: H.B. 2276 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PERSON TESTIFYING: WIL OKABE  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Honorable Chair Sylvia Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) **proposes amendments to H.B. 2276**, relating to the implementation upon its ratification, the amendment to Article X, section 1 of the Hawaii State Constitution.

HSTA proposes that Section 2 of H.B. 2276 be amended by providing that section 302L-\_\_\_\_ (d) state as follows:

“(d) The office may contract with eligible providers [ ~~which may include private providers,~~ ] of early education to increase the capacity of early childhood education program to provide high-quality early childhood education to children across the state. Eligible providers shall incorporate quality standards in their program pursuant to rules adopted by the office. The office may provide support to providers to incorporate these quality standards, including support related to teacher-child interactions, individual child assessments, and family engagement. Eligible providers shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws. As used in HRS, section 302L-\_\_\_\_, the terms “eligible providers of early education” and “eligible providers” only means “charter schools,” “conversion charter schools” and/or “start-up charter schools,” as those terms are defined and utilized in chapter 302D.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on our proposed amendment to **HB 2276**.