



EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING
HONOLULU

TERRY LOCK
DIRECTOR

Testimony in **Support** of
H.B. 875, Relating to Exemptions from Child Care Licensing
By Terry Lock, Director

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
February 11, 2013
3:30 p.m., Room 325

Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha, I am Terry Lock, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL is in support of House Bill 875.

EOEL is charged with coordinating efforts on behalf of young children by creating partnerships and alignment of policies and programs to achieve improved outcomes in health, safety, and school readiness and success.

Programs accredited by the Hawaii Council of Private Schools (HCPS) are required to follow requirements that exceed the licensing requirements of the Department of Human Services. H.B. 875 would exempt these programs, as well as those regulated by the U.S. Department of Defense and located on federal property, from DHS-licensing requirements. It would require HCPS-accredited programs to provide evidence that HCPS licensing standards meet or exceed DHS licensing standards, including a monitoring component.

We support H.B. 875 because a cornerstone of our work is to ensure high-quality programs for our young children. In Hawaii we have the opportunity to build a system of care for young children that will build on the strengths of both our public and private sector providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Rep. Angus McKelvey, Chair
Rep. Derek Kawakami, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND CONSUMER

From: Katherine Murphy, Executive Director
Hawaii Association for the Education of Young Children (HAEYC)

Date: Monday, February 11, 2013

Subject: HB 875, Relating to Exemptions from Child Care Licensing

House Bill 875 would add exemptions for any child care program licensed by the United States Department of Defense and the Hawaii Council of Private Schools to be exempt from licensing by the Department of Human Services. HAEYC respectfully opposes this bill in its current form. The Department of Human Services child care licensing process is more than sufficient in ensuring the basic health and safety for our youngest keiki. The additional licensing methods suggested in HB 875 have the potential to complicate the licensing process and place an additional burden on the Department.

HAEYC would like to continue to be a positive contributor to ongoing policy conversations about Hawaii's children. Our volunteers and staff would be happy to provide you with more information to facilitate your decision-making. Please contact us at (808) 942-4708 or haeyc@hawaiiieyc.org.

HAEYC represents nearly 1,000 members who are early childhood development and educational professionals across the state.

HAEYC's mission is to promote, support, and expand quality and professionalism in early childhood programs and services for Hawaii's children (0-8) and their families.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Katherine E. Murphy
Executive Director
HAEYC