



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

Testimony of Governor Neil Abercrombie
In **Support** of
S.B. 1084, Proposing An Amendment to Article X, Section 1,
Of The Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For
Private Early Childhood Education Programs
S.B. 1093 S.D. 1, Relating to School Readiness
S.B. 1095 S.D. 1, Relating to Early Childhood Education

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 21, 2013
9:00 a.m., Room 211

Chair Ige, Vice-Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

I am in **strong support of Senate Bill 1084, Senate Bill 1093 S.D. 1, and Senate Bill 1095 S.D. 1.**

Background

We know that too many of our children are entering school without the basics needed to succeed in school. We know that many of these children have not attended preschool.

We also know that high-quality early learning has immediate and long-term benefits not only for the children participating in such programs, but also for the societies in which they live. Local studies indicate that every \$1 invested in early learning generates \$4.20 in future savings and increased earnings for Hawaii.

To meet its mandate to create a plan for a statewide early learning system (Act 178), the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL), which is attached to the Office of the Governor, drew upon past work, current state and national expertise, and input from the local early childhood community to develop a proposal for a high-quality early learning program. The program would contract with public schools as well as private preschools and other programs to provide early education services.

Summary of Bills

To include the state's existing network of private preschools, which:

- Make up the backbone of the state's preschool services (expertise and available capacity); and

- Have a clear educational purpose (explicit educational goals and standards will result in the higher-quality services that will help us achieve the outcomes we need to make a difference for our keiki and our state),

the Attorney General has advised that a Constitutional amendment is required to address the State's prohibition on private preschools receiving public funds.

We introduced S.B. 1084 to propose a ConAm to allow public funds to be appropriated "for the support or benefit of private early childhood education programs as provided by law." The amendment is narrowly crafted to be specific to early childhood education programs, maintain the prohibition on vouchers for K-12 education, and allow the Legislature to retain control.

The ConAm bill is one of three specific to the development of a high-quality early learning system for Hawaii. Once we realized the Constitutional roadblock to implementing the original plan, we added phases to the plan.

PHASE 1 - The School Readiness Program (S.B. 1093):

- What can be implemented now, without a ConAm.
- Designed to serve about 3,500 late-born four-year-olds whose kindergarten entry will be delayed until the 2015-2016 school year due to the 2014 change in kindergarten entry age that was mandated by the Legislature.
- Delivered through contracts with DHS-licensed and license-exempt (the latter added by H.B. 862 H.D.1) child care programs and DOE, that meet quality standards established by EOEL.
- Allows more children to be ready to learn on day one of kindergarten by focusing more on socialization skills.
- Establishes the infrastructure for the Early Childhood Education Program.
- Start date: Fall 2014.

PHASE 2 - The Early Childhood Education Program (S.B. 1095):

- The large, full-scale program that can be implemented only with a ConAm.
- Serves more children: three- and four-year-old children, with priority for fours.
- Delivered through contracts with private early childhood education providers and DOE, that meet quality standards established by EOEL.
- Will help a child with social-emotional development but also intellectual development. Incorporates higher standards for curriculum, assessment, and teacher quality that can be aligned with 100% of the Hawaii Early Learning and Development Standards. Tied to educational outcomes. Focuses on the "whole" child; still developmentally appropriate.

- Only under this program will we be able to hold participating providers accountable for educational outcomes, which is what is needed to help us achieve the outcomes we want for children.
- Because the focus is on education, the risk of it being challenged under the Constitution is high – there has been litigation in the past.
- Start date: Fall 2016.

On the last page of my testimony is a table that explains how all three bills would work together to improve outcomes for children and the state.

Only when voters ratify the Constitutional amendment and with S.B. 1095 will we be able to develop an effective, high-quality early learning system.

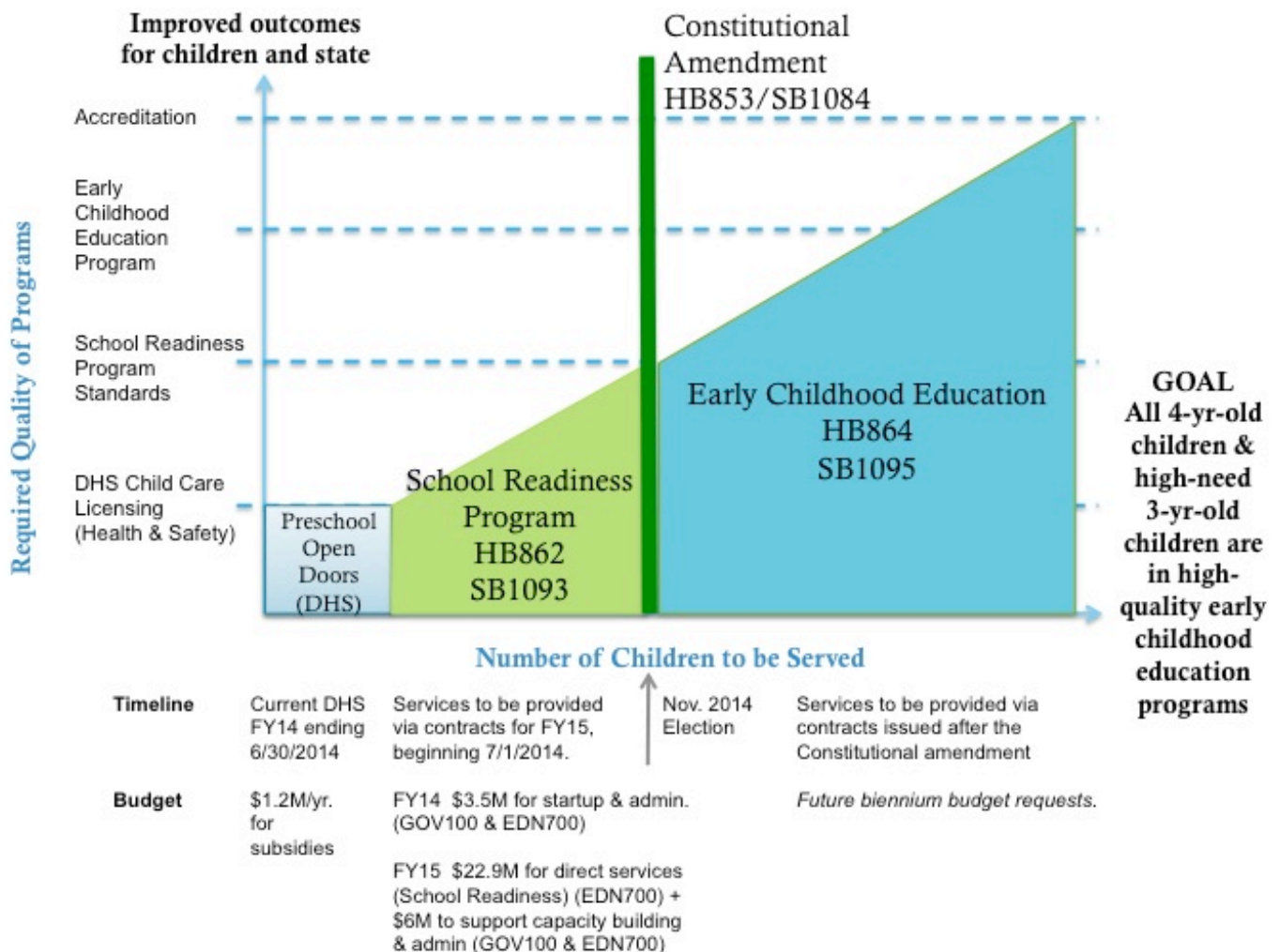
Funding Request in Executive Budget

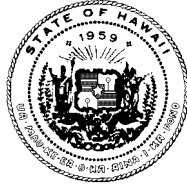
We are proposing a graduated implementation for the early learning system:

- The program initially serves late-born four-year-olds, the gap group that will result from the 2014 change in kindergarten entry age.
 - Estimated number served = 3500.
 - My executive budget for the biennium requests the following:
 - For EOEL positions and other operational costs – to coordinate and manage the early learning system (GOV100).
 - *FY14: \$648,300 / FY15 \$681,300*
 - For capacity building and quality assurance – recognizing the need to increase the availability of, and consumption of, high-quality school readiness services, especially in areas with limited access to providers (EDN700).
 - *FY14: \$2.9M / FY15 \$5.3M*
 - For contracts with providers for direct services – to ensure that four-year-olds have access to high-quality school readiness opportunities, with priority for late-borns in FY15 and FY16. Based on a school-day/school-year schedule and sliding fee scale or family participation requirements. (EDN700)
 - *FY15: \$22.9M*
- The plan envisions increasing the number of eligible four-year-olds over an eight-year period and as the budget allows.
 - Providing access to every four-year-old statewide would cost an estimated \$125M.
 - Estimated number served = 18,000 kids, assuming close to 100% participation (similar to participation rate in voluntary kindergarten).
- The amount of future funding and program expansion depends on the decisions of future legislatures.

FY14 is a critical planning year: we need to establish contracts and procurement processes, and recruit and enroll families. To reach the vision we have of a quality program which will get us the outcomes needed to make a difference, and to serve more four-year-olds, we need to address the crucial need to build capacity, including spaces for children and workforce.

This is my highest priority. I urge you to support these bills. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. My staff and Terry Lock, director of the Executive Office on Early Learning, are available to answer any questions you may have.





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

February 21, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 1084 - PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X,
SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT
THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY
CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Hearing: Thursday, February 21, 2013; 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of S.B. 1084 is to propose an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) strongly supports this Administration bill. Many of the families of late-born children affected by the change in kindergarten entry age in the 2014-2015 school year will be forced to find child care arrangements for an additional year. Without the implementation of a statewide early childhood education program, these displaced children may not attend a high-quality early education program in this extra year prior to kindergarten entry and may not be prepared with the skills necessary to be successful

learners when they enter kindergarten. 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 highest cost of living states in the nation.

In order to establish an early learning system in Hawaii and implement the proposed statewide early childhood education program, this Constitutional Amendment is necessary.

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

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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**THE HONORABLE DAVID Y. IGE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawai`i**

February 21, 2013

**RE: S.B. 1084; PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE
HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC
FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in support of S.B. 1084.

S.B. 1084 establishes public early childhood education programs and supports private early childhood education programs as well.

While the Department's primary role is to prosecute juvenile and criminal cases within the justice system, our overarching focus is on public safety for the community, and that starts with prevention and education. As such, the Department strongly supports the development and implementation of early childhood education programs in Hawaii.

According to the HighScope Perry Preschool study that was conducted over 4 decades by the late David P. Weikart, founder of the HighScope Educational Research Foundation; Larry Schweinhart, HighScope's current president; and their colleagues, the effects of high-quality early care and education on low-income three- and four-year-olds shows that adults at age 40 who participated in a preschool program in their early years have higher earnings, are more likely to hold a job, have committed fewer crimes, and are more likely to have graduated from high school. Overall, the study documented a return to society of more than \$16 for every tax dollar invested in the early care and education program.

One of the reviewers of the study, Nobel-Prize-winning University of Chicago economist James J. Heckman, said, "This report substantially bolsters the case for early interventions in disadvantaged populations. More than 35 years after they received an enriched preschool program, the Perry Preschool participants achieve much greater success in social and economic life than their counterparts who are randomly denied treatment."

Among the study's major findings in the crime prevention area are:

- The group who received high-quality early education had significantly fewer arrests than the non-program group (36% vs. 55% arrested five times or more); and
- Significantly fewer members of the group who received high-quality early care than the non-program group were ever arrested for violent crimes (32% vs. 48%), property crimes (36% vs. 58%), or drug crimes (14% vs. 34%).

For the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu strongly supports S.B. 1084. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



Testimony Presented to the
Committee on Ways and Means

Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 9:00 am

by
Chaminade University of Honolulu Education Dean
Dr. Joe Peters

SB 1084
Relating to Early Childhood Education

Chairperson Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB 1084** to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs.

The Education Division at Chaminade University supports **SB 1084** to put the question "Shall the appropriation of public funds be permitted for the support or benefit of private early childhood education programs, as provided by law?" on the ballot to amend the constitution. Although some may argue against providing funds to non-public entities in order to maintain the separation of church and state, the goal is to allow *any* program that complies with the rules, religious or otherwise, to provide early childhood programs. The providers who would qualify have the infrastructure and quality teaching force in place to provide our children with the early learning support they need to be fully ready for successful transition into our elementary schools. Establishing a parallel system in the public schools would be an unjustifiable use of public funding considering the overall savings of using existing successful providers, as well as the precedents set in other states that allow for similar support of non-public education providers.

Additionally, we support the following joint position statement of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee.

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.

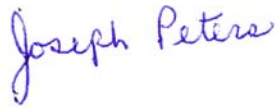
We all need to pull together and support early education for all of Hawai‘i’s keiki. We ask that this year’s legislature support early childhood education by funding preschool for all four-year-olds beginning in 2014.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Dr. Joseph Peters
Dean, Education Division
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Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Thursday, February 21, 2013

9:00 a.m.

Conference Room 211

RE: PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS. – SENATE BILL 1084

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Kai and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable. We support Senate Bill 1084 that proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, as provided by law, to help the State meet its goal of providing an early learning system for the children of Hawaii.

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 understand that the Constitutional Amendment is necessary to allow for a quality public/private early childhood education delivery system that would incorporate higher-quality, education focused standards to make a difference in the lives of our young children. We therefore believe it is critical that this bill go forward and allow the voters to express themselves and their support for our children.

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



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Harry A. Saunders
President

Email Submittal: WAMTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Testimony by Harry Saunders
President, Castle & Cooke Hawai'i
February 19, 2013

Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS

February 21, 2013
9:00 a.m.
Room 211

Support for:
SB 1084
Permit appropriation of public funds for private
early childhood education programs;
SB 1093
Relating to school readiness;
SB 1095
Relating to early childhood education

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the SENATE COMMITTEE on
WAYS AND MEANS:

I am Harry Saunders, President of Castle & Cooke Hawai'i and a member of the Hawai'i Business Roundtable. I support these early childhood measures as key commitments and investments for our State. Educational and Social advocates have provided their expertise and data for the importance and necessity of early childhood education. I respectfully request your support and commitment to these measures to make it a priority and a critical investment for the well being of our keiki and for the future of Hawai'i.

We support SB 1084 because it would permit public funds through partnerships with private programs that would engage existing private early childhood programs, incorporate higher-quality, education-focused goals and

standards, and utilize the infrastructure developed over decades of preschool education in Hawai'i.

We also support SB 1093 as it would establish a School Readiness Program to address the most urgent need for services for children unable to start kindergarten in 2014-2015. It can be implemented without a Constitutional amendment, and provided by Department of Human Services-licensed and licensed-exempt child care programs and Department of Education (DOE) that meet standards set by the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). This program is needed to establish the foundation/infrastructure for the Early Childhood Education Program.

And finally, we support SB 1095 that would establish the Early Childhood Education Program (after the ratification of the Constitutional amendment) that would set up a full-scale high-quality early learning system for children and professionals; be delivered through private early childhood education programs and DOE that meet standards set by EOEL and incorporates higher standards for curriculum, assessment and teacher quality that are tied to educational outcomes and accountability.

While you balance the myriad programs for the State, I respectfully request your consideration to support these bills as a budget/funding priority for early childhood education; to establish a specific commitment for the foundation and building blocks of our future.

Castle & Cooke Hawai'i continues to invest in Hawai'i as we diversify to sustain our operation in the areas of housing, commercial, renewable energy and agriculture. Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact us:

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Carleton Ching, Vice President –
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Phone: 548-3793



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101
Honolulu, HI 96814
Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129
email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

February 21, 2013

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Chair*
Ms. Martha Guinan, *Vice
Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta
Ms. Cassandra Bennett
Dr. Tammy Bopp
Ms. Jyo Bridgewater
Dr. Robert Campbell
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman
Ms. Annette Cooper
Ms. Phyllis DeKok
Ms. Shari Dela Cuadra-Larsen,
liaison to the Superintendent
Ms. Gabriele Finn
Ms. Tami Ho
Ms. Barbara Ioli
Ms. Deborah Kobayakawa
Ms. Bernadette Lane
Ms. Shanelle Lum
Ms. Eleanor MacDonald
Ms. Rachel Matsunobu
Ms. Dale Matsuura
Ms. Stacey Oshio
Ms. Zaidarene Place
Ms. Barbara Pretty
Ms. Kau'i Rezentes
Ms. Melissa Rosen
Dr. Patricia Sheehey
Mr. Tom Smith
Mr. Mike Tamahaha
Dr. Daniel Ulrich
Ms. Cari White

Jan Tateishi, Staff
Susan Rocco, Staff

Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 1084 - PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Dear Chair Ige and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii's State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **supports** SB 1084. We understand that this constitutional amendment is necessary to allow the State to expand the capacity of private preschools to serve preschool students, including students displaced by the repeal of Junior Kindergarten.

SEAC believes it is critically important for the Legislature to approve this amendment as a necessary step to pave the way for a high quality Early Childhood Education Program that embraces research-based, developmental appropriate and inclusive practices. If approved, SEAC will reach out to its stakeholder groups to help educate the public about this critically important commitment to better educational outcomes for young children and a stronger foundation for academic success in subsequent grades.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this important legislation. If you have any questions, I will be happy to answer them.

Respectfully,

Ivalee Sinclair, Chair



Testimony presented before the
Senate Ways and Means Committee
February 21, 2013 at 9:00 am
By Karen C. Lee, Ed.D.
Executive Director, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education

SB 1084: Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to Permit the Appropriation of Public Funds for Private Early Childhood Education Programs

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

SB 1084 proposes a constitutional amendment to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs, as provided by law, to help the State meet its goal to provide a state-funded early learning system for the keiki of Hawaii, prior to entering kindergarten.

Hawaii P-20 supports this bill. In order for the State to create a high-quality early learning system, it must utilize existing resources and services already delivered through private educational programs across the state. Our keiki must have pre-kindergarten learning experiences that adequately prepare them for their next stage of education. However, the Office of the Attorney General has opined that a Constitutional amendment is necessary to permit the use of public funds for private education programs. Without this amendment, we will not be able to reach a significant percentage of the population that needs every chance of success in school.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Comments presented before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 21, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

By Linda K. Johnsrud

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost, University of Hawai'i System

SB 1084: PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The University of Hawai'i supports SB 1084 that proposes an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawai'i State Constitution.

The University of Hawai'i recognizes the critical importance of early childhood education to lifetime development. Hawai'i must expand the number of children in the state who have access to high quality early childhood education programs, and the state's Department of the Attorney General has deemed that a constitutional amendment is necessary to advance this goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

The Senate State of Hawai'i

TO: Honorable David Ige, Chair
Honorable Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Thursday, February 21, 2013

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 211
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

FROM: Kamehameha Schools

RE: SENATE BILL 1084

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1084. Kamehameha Schools supports the efforts of the legislature to enhance the early education opportunities across the state and would like to offer testimony in support of SB 1084.

SB 1084 proposes an amendment to the Hawai'i State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs. The private sector has largely supported Hawai'i's early childhood education efforts; we humbly ask for continued support through the funding mechanism outlined in SB 1084 to complement private funding of early education.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is a statewide educational system supported by a trust endowed by Ke Ali'i 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 Community-Based Early Childhood Education Division also began serving keiki from birth to three years old, as part of its Hi'ilani family-based 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' Community-Based 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.



55 Merchant Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-4333

HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH

Kapi'olani • Pali Momi • Straub • Wilcox

808-535-7401
www.hawaiipacifichealth.org

Thursday – February 21, 2013 – 9:00 am
Conference Room 211

The Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Senator David Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

From: Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA

Re: **SB 1084 Proposing An Amendment To Article X, Section 1 Of The Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early Childhood Education Programs**

Comments in Support

My name is Virginia Pressler, MD, MBA, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategic Officer for Hawaii Pacific Health (HPH). HPH is a nonprofit health care system and the state's largest health care provider anchored by its four nonprofit hospitals: Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, Pali Momi Medical Center, Straub Clinic & Hospital and Wilcox Memorial Hospital on Kauai. HPH is committed to providing the highest quality medical care and service to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Region through its four affiliated hospitals, 49 outpatient clinics and service sites, more than 5,400 employees and 1,300 physicians on staff,

HPH fully supports the creation within the early learning system an early childhood education program. We employ thousands of graduates of Hawai'i'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 we 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.

Hawaii remains one of only eleven states that provide no significant state funding for early childhood education. This coupled with nearly 43% of our students not having received preschool upon entering Kindergarten means that our Department of Education System must devote time and resources to bringing these children to the level of their counterparts who have had some form of school readiness program. We cannot, as a state, continue on this path if we hope to produce the workforce that will lead



Affiliates of Hawai'i Pacific Health

us into the ever more competitive, and complex 21st century.

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 understand that the Constitutional Amendment is necessary to allow for a quality public/private early childhood education delivery system that would incorporate higher-quality, education focused standards to make a difference in the lives of our young children. We therefore believe it is critical that this bill go forward and allow the voters to express themselves and their support for our children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Legislative Director

**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 1084, PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO
ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO
PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hon. David Y. Ige, Chair
Hon. Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair**

**Thursday, February 21, 2013, 9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

Honorable Chair Ige and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 150 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of the intent of, but with comments for SB 1084, proposing an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution to permit the appropriation of public funds for private early childhood education programs.

According to the National Institute for Early Education Research, Hawaii is among eleven states lacking a state-funded pre-kindergarten program. In 2014, the state's junior kindergarten program will be eliminated, leaving approximately 5,100 late-born four-year-olds without a public preschool option. Parents of these children will be forced to turn to the private education marketplace to find pre-kindergarten services for their children, at an average cost of \$8,640 per year (or \$720 per month).

According to the Good Beginnings Alliance, the average statewide monthly preschool cost amounts to \$13,680,000. GBA has also put together a sliding funding scale estimating how much money would be needed annually for state-supported 12-month preschool programs for varying percentages of Hawaii's pre-kindergarten population. Their estimates show that 1,200 children (6.3 percent) can be covered at a cost of \$10,368,000; 5,000 (26.3 percent) at a cost of \$43,200,000; 7,500 (39.4 percent) at a cost of \$64,800,000; and 10,000 (52.6 percent) at a cost of \$86,400,000.

Notably, in a 2011 report on income self-sufficiency in Hawaii, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism estimated that for parents to afford licensed care for one child, as well as before- and after-school care for a school-aged child, a Honolulu family of four must earn \$61,900 annually. A single working parent, by comparison, would need to earn \$56,400 per year. Sadly, DBEDT estimates that 27 percent and 77 percent of such families, respectively, fall below the income thresholds necessary for “self-sufficiency.”

Research on the benefits of quality pre-kindergarten programs indicates that for every dollar invested in such opportunities, society saves four to eight dollars on remedial classes, special education, welfare programs, and criminal justice costs. Roughly 85 percent of a child's brain develops from birth to age five, according to modern neuroscience, emphasizing the importance of providing a quality learning environment during these formative years. Following the Governor's lead, we want to highlight that, as of 2011, 42 percent of Hawaii's public school keiki did not attend any form of preschool prior to enrollment in formal education, despite the approximately 420 percent return on investment for every dollar spent on quality early childhood services. As the Department of education continues to streamline educational accountability, particularly through the possible institution of merit pay and high-stakes evaluations for teachers and educational officers, it is imperative that we do all we can to ensure our children are “classroom ready,” meaning that they are prepared to receive basic instruction and effectively socialize with peers upon entering elementary school, placing both our keiki and their teachers on the path to success.

That said, we urge lawmakers to be vigilant in ensuring that this amendment is not utilized as a predicate for future implementation of private school voucher programs. In the past and in other states, advocates for school vouchers have seized upon any pertinent fiscal reform regarding education to forward their cause, falsely arguing that public funding for any private educational programming, should such programs be deemed successful by future studies, evinces the likely success of educational privatization writ large. We feel that school vouchers would undermine our public education system, the backbone of Hawaii's and the United States' democratic practices, potentially leading to educational discrimination, segregation, and scholastic inequalities that both mirror and exacerbate the socioeconomic disparity of our society. We also encourage your committee to consider the amending the implementation legislation that accompanies this bill to restrict public funds to secular learning programs, thereby ensuring that funds appropriated to early childhood education as a result of the proposed amendment do

not violate the U.S. Constitution's and Hawaii State Constitution's Establishment Clauses, which bar preferential governmental treatment for religious institutions.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify with comments for this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Legislative Director
IMUAlliance

From: [Alfred Castle](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:04:49 AM

Alfred Castle from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

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

First Name: Alfred

Last Name: Castle

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96813

From: [Allan Au](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:15:48 PM

Allan Au from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): allanau20@yahoo.com

First Name: Allan

Last Name: Au

City: Mililani
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96789

From: [Annie Kcichman](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:00:08 AM

Annie Kcichman from Keaau, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): akichman@gmail.com

First Name: Annie

Last Name: Kcichman

City: Keaau
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96749

From: [Bryan Sarasin Jr.](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:46:29 AM

Bryan Sarasin Jr. from Wailuku, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kulepawz@yahoo.com

First Name: Bryan

Last Name: Sarasin Jr.

City: Wailuku
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96793

From: [Byron Nagasako](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 5:16:21 AM

Byron Nagasako from Aiea, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): nagasakob@yahoo.com

First Name: Byron

Last Name: Nagasako

City: Aiea
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96701

From: [Carl Daeufer](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:25:30 PM

Carl Daeufer from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Dr Carl J. Daeufer, retired emeritus Professor of Education

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): cdaeufer@lava.net

First Name: Carl

Last Name: Daeufer

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96821

From: [Chanelle Kukona Lucero](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:41:44 PM

Chanelle Kukona Lucero from Kapolei, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): kukona.lucero@gmail.com

First Name: Chanelle

Last Name: Kukona Lucero

City: Kapolei
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96707

From: [Craig Chong](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:46:46 PM

Craig Chong from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): craigchong@gmail.com

First Name: Craig

Last Name: Chong

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96822

From: [Daysha Mendes](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 12:29:47 AM

Daysha Mendes from Pahoia, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dmendes816@gmail.com

First Name: Daysha

Last Name: Mendes

City: Pahoia
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96778

From: [Dustin Deniz](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 1:52:38 AM

Dustin Deniz from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): dustin@808benefits.com

First Name: Dustin

Last Name: Deniz

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96815

From: [Gabriella S. Fodor](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:23:14 PM

Gabriella S. Fodor from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical.

When we use terms like "critical" it tells us we've been negligent already, somehow allowing it to become "critical" . The time is now. When we use terms like "governments first priority" it means all else is secondary. Clearly we don't heed our own advice. We are singularly situated to be the first to implement President Obama's "universal preschool program". We can learn from Georgia and Florida. We need to get together on this and raise some serious \$\$\$ for "our future"? no for THEIR future our keiki so that they will be adequately prepared to meet the future's challenges --lord knows we're leaving them with plenty to figure out. Obviously we couldn't or else this wouldn't be an issue! Something as fundamental as education, we the richest nation can't provide for our kids? Shameful.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): fodorsusan@gmail.com

First Name: Gabriella S.

Last Name: Fodor

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96822

From: [Gayle Tanoura](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 7:01:06 AM

Gayle Tanoura from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): gmt20apr@gmail.com

First Name: Gayle

Last Name: Tanoura

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96814

From: [Geralyn Castillo](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:26:45 PM

Geralyn Castillo from Ewa beach, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): geecastillo808@gmail.com

First Name: Geralyn

Last Name: Castillo

City: Ewa beach
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96706

From: [James Little](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:23:26 PM

James Little from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. In the future this will result in significant saving by advancing our children thru our educational system quickly, efficiently, and far-far fewer drop-outs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jrlittlevn@yahoo.com

First Name: James

Last Name: Little

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96815-1506

From: [Jin Chang](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:06:41 AM

Jin Chang from Pearl City, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): jin3435@hotmail.com

First Name: Jin

Last Name: Chang

City: Pearl City
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96782

From: [johanna_otsuji](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:36:04 PM

johanna otsuji from millilani, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS.

Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical, emotional, social, linguistic, cognitive, and creative development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults.

Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. Research on brain development has reported that the most essential time for the development intellect in young children are the early years (Feeney & Moravcik, 2005). Did you know that addressing children's developmental needs before and during their first year of school can boost children's readiness and chances of success?

However, many children are unable to enter kindergarten fully prepared nor have they attended high-quality preschool. SB1093 and SB1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs as currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool.

Children who do not experience an early childhood program may be at a disadvantage in their knowledge, skills, and dispositions that facilitate their ability to succeed in kindergarten and beyond (Children Now, 2009). The National Center for Early Development and Learning (NCEDL, 2002 as cited in School Readiness Task Force Hawaii Good Beginnings Interdepartmental Council, 2004) point out that a child's transition to school involves not only how children adjust to kindergarten, but also how families and schools interact and cooperate. It's not just the child who makes the transition – families and school personnel are also involved (School Readiness Task Force Hawaii Good Beginnings Interdepartmental Council, 2004). Without a collective preparation and involvement, children may have difficulty being ready for elementary school (Children Now, 2009).

As the State of Hawaii was one of the first states in the nation to adopt a statewide definition of school readiness (Aiona, 2005), Act 13 became law on April 8, 2002 with the viewpoint that readiness is a shares responsibility and accountability stating, "Young children are ready to have successful learning

experiences in school when there is a positive interaction of the child's developmental characteristics, school practices, and family and community support" (Grace & Brandt, 2005, pg17). "Kindergarten is the place in which children make important conclusions about school as a place where they want to be and about themselves as learners" (Bailey in Pianta 1999, as cited in School Readiness Task Force Hawaii Good Beginnings Interdepartmental Council, 2004, p. 4). It is a time of transition for young children to move from what is comfortable and known to new and unfamiliar into a larger school environment with new peers, adults, and expectations. Children cannot be expected to be lone navigators as they enter into the next chapter of their education, rather it is the "quality of experiences and opportunities that occur prior to entering school that determine children's preparedness and success in kindergarten (Brown, 2003) starting with family interactions, to early care and schooling, to building routines, skills, dispositions and general knowledge about the world.

In line with the old African proverb, "it takes a village to raise a child," Wesley (2003) best states, "Families, educators, and community members share responsibilities for children's success even though they may have separate roles in socializing and educating them. The emphasis is on the relationships among families, schools, and communities, and the way those relationships create promising opportunities for the child" (p. 371). We must equally provide and invest in young children because school readiness originates from the rich experiences within homes and communities, which then translates to school and success in transitioning to kindergarten and beyond. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Best Regards,

Johanna Otsuji

Lead Teacher, Sunshine School Preschool

jotsuji@hawaii.edu

808-341-7975

References

Aiona, S. (2005). Assessing School Readiness. *Educational Perspectives*, 38(1), 47-50.

Brown, G., & North Carolina Partnership for Children, R. h. (2003). What It Takes To Support School Readiness: Building Collaborative Partnerships. Program Services Paper.

Children Now. (2009). Kindergarten Readiness Data: Improving Children's Success in School Education

Policy Brief. Retrieved on June 29, 2012 from ChildrenNow website:
http://www.childrennow.org/uploads/documents/early_learning_brief_052009.pdf.

Feeney, S. & Moravcik, E. (2005). What Should They Be Learning In Preschool? The Development of Preschool Content Standards In Hawaii. Educational Perspectives, 38(1), 47-50.

NAEYC. (2005). Position Statement on School Readiness. Retrieved June 30, 2012 from NAEYC website: <http://www.naeyc.org/files/naeyc/file/positions/PSREADY98.PDF>.

Grace, D. J., & Brandt, M. E. (2005). Ready for Success in Kindergarten: Perspectives of Teachers, Parents, and Administrators in Hawai'i. Educational Perspectives, 38(1), 14-17.

School Readiness Task Force Hawaii Good Beginnings Interdepartmental Council. (2004). Steps to Kindergarten Transition: A Guide to a Successful Transition to Kindergarten for Early Education and Care & Elementary School Teachers, Staff, Administrators, Community Facilitators. Retrieved on June 30, 2012 from Good Beginnings Alliance website:
<http://www.goodbeginnings.org/pdf/TransitionTOOLKIT.pdf>.

Wesley, P. W., & Buysse, V. (2003). Making Meaning of School Readiness in Schools and Communities. Early Childhood Research Quarterly, 18(3), 351-75.

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First Name: johanna

Last Name: otsuji

City: mililani

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

From: [Karen Gavey](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:50:42 PM

Karen Gavey from Haleiwa, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Karen

Last Name: Gavey

City: Haleiwa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96712

From: [Karen Hanabusa](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:22:13 PM

Karen Hanabusa from Waianae, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): karenh@hcapweb.org

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Hanabusa

City: Waianae
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96792

From: [Karen Meyer](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:11:12 AM

Karen Meyer from Haleiwa, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members:

I wholeheartedly support the bills that will provide quality preschool to all of Hawaii's four year olds. The preschool experience is so essential for young children's whole development. I have two children a six year old and a two year old. My six year old attended LCC Children's Center in Pearl City on a part-time basis. This experience provided her with good social, physical, cognitive and creative skills and the abilities to succeed in elementary school. My six year old is now in first grade and is doing great, her success in school is due in part to her exposure to quality early childhood education. Please vote in favor of the early childhood bills. I realize that a lot of money is needed to fund these initiatives but as a tax payer I would rather spend "our" tax payer dollars on early childhood rather than the prison system.

I hope that these bills pass and that steps can be made to provide early childhood education to all 4 year olds by 2015 when my youngest daughter will turn 4. Due to the high cost of preschool/childcare we are unable to enroll our youngest child in a quality early childhood education program. I urge all of you to invest in our children and make the right decision to help Hawaii's families to raise intelligent, caring, confident children.

Mahalo.

Karen Meyer

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): meyer.karen@gmail.com

First Name: Karen

Last Name: Meyer

City: Haleiwa

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96712

From: [Kate Wescott](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:33:44 PM

Kate Wescott from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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Email 1 (Primary): jandkaloha@aol.com

First Name: Kate

Last Name: Wescott

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96815

From: [Kay Lipps](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:18:35 PM

Kay Lipps from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Kay

Last Name: Lipps

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96817

From: [Kimberly Aberilla](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:12:28 AM

Kimberly Aberilla from Ewa Beach, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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City: Ewa Beach
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96706

From: [Kimberly Narimatsu](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:26:28 AM

Kimberly Narimatsu from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Kimberly

Last Name: Narimatsu

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96825

From: [Lani Julian](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:56:01 AM

Lani Julian from Mililani, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Lani

Last Name: Julian

City: Mililani
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From: [Leeane Sarasin](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:45:43 AM

Leeane Sarasin from Wailuku, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Leeane

Last Name: Sarasin

City: Wailuku
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96793

From: [Leona Blankley](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:25:36 AM

Leona Blankley from Princeville, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Leona

Last Name: Blankley

City: Princeville
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96722

To: Senator David Y. Ige, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Liz Chun, Early Education Policy Consultant

Date: Thursday, February 21, 2013, 9:00 am
Conference Room 211

Subject: **SB 1084: Proposing an Amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution To Permit The Appropriation Of Public Funds For Private Early Childhood Education Programs.**

I submit this testimony **in strong support of SB 1084, proposing an amendment to Article X, Section I of the State Constitution.** This bill will allow a state-funded voluntary early education program to be implemented by private early childhood education programs.

*Please note that Hawaii may be eligible to bring in new federal dollars under President Obama's recently proposed preschool program –**however** - only if Hawaii is already investing state money in such a program. It would be very unfortunate for Hawaii to miss this partnership opportunity.*

By proposing an early childhood program which utilizes both Department of Education (DOE) sites and private preschool providers, the connection to DOE will be supported while also utilizing the expertise and experience of community wide preschools.

This presents an opportunity to build upon Hawaii's strong P-3 pilot funded by the W.K.Kellogg Foundation. The positive linkages among parents, early childhood programs, and K-3 programs can systemically enhance Hawaii's educational pipeline.

The 39 states who already publically fund early childhood programs utilize private early education programs for implementation. This approach is economically sensible as it utilizes the infrastructure developed over decades of preschool education.

Hawaii boasts a strong cohort of early education programs. Rather than construct new programs, it is wise and cost-saving to contract with already present programs. These programs will be required to follow a set of program standards. Child outcomes will be monitored and reported to ensure quality and efficacy of the program.

I urge you to allow this bill to go forward. The people of Hawaii deserve the opportunity to speak up for their keiki.

Contact Information: lizchun@hawaii.rr.com

From: [Mayanne Kim](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 6:21:25 AM

Mayanne Kim from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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Email 1 (Primary): maykim14@gmail.com

First Name: Mayanne

Last Name: Kim

City: Waipahu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96797-5636

From: [Mele Nelson](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 12:54:32 AM

Mele Nelson from Pukalani, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

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First Name: Mele

Last Name: Nelson

City: Pukalani
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96788

From: [Michael Fahey](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:27:03 PM

Michael Fahey from Mililani Towne, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095. As a former preschool teacher I have seen time and time again how preparing children in preschool can make them ready and more successful in Kindergarten.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): ihilanisf@aol.com

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Fahey

City: Mililani Towne

State: HI

ZIP Code: 96789

From: [Michelle Cartier](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:56:31 PM

Michelle Cartier from Ewa Beach, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mickiecartier@clearwire.net

First Name: Michelle

Last Name: Cartier

City: Ewa Beach
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96706

From: [Michelle Tom](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 7:08:34 AM

Michelle Tom from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mtom@pidfoundation.org

First Name: Michelle

Last Name: Tom

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96815

From: [Nancy Yuen](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 9:05:08 PM

Nancy Yuen from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): nanofo@hawaiiintel.net

First Name: Nancy

Last Name: Yuen

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96817

From: [Noah Tom](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:17:27 PM

Noah Tom from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Noah Tom, a concerned parent of 3.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): noahatom@gmail.com

First Name: Noah

Last Name: Tom

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96816

From: [Quemado Frances](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:12:49 PM

Quemado Frances from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): frances.mabel@mac.com

First Name: Quemado

Last Name: Frances

City: Waipahu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96797

From: [Quemado Lionel](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:20:32 PM

Quemado Lionel from Waipahu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): flkphotography@yahoo.com

First Name: Quemado

Last Name: Lionel

City: Waipahu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96797

From: [Rachel Heckscher](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: *****SPAM***** In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:30:48 AM

Rachel Heckscher from Wailuku, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): raypublichealth@gmail.com

First Name: Rachel

Last Name: Heckscher

City: Wailuku
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96793

From: [Randy Salazar](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:50:04 PM

Randy Salazar from Aiea, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): rsalaza1@hpu.edu

First Name: Randy

Last Name: Salazar

City: Aiea
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96701

From: [Roger Castillo](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 10:50:46 PM

Roger Castillo from Ewa beach, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): castilloroger93@yahoo.com

First Name: Roger

Last Name: Castillo

City: Ewa beach
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96706

From: [Robert Wo](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 8:49:16 AM

Robert Wo from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. I am a parent who has seen the positive benefits of preschool for all three of my children. In addition, my oldest daughter is now a preschool assistant teacher at Seagull School, and I have personally observed the beneficial impact of that preschool on the growth and development of young children. As a business owner, I know that our employees are extremely concerned about providing the best education for their children. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095. Best regards, Robert Wo, Jr. Owner and Executive Officer, C.S. Wo & Sons, Ltd.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): bwo@csw.com

First Name: Robert

Last Name: Wo

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96817

From: [Sharlette Poe](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:38:00 PM

Sharlette Poe from Waianae, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sharpoe@gmail.com

First Name: Sharlette

Last Name: Poe

City: Waianae
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96792

From: [Sharon Black](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:32:52 PM

Sharon Black from Princeville, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): sharon.black.ny@gmail.com

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Black

City: Princeville
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96722

From: [Terri Yoshinaga](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 11:27:28 PM

Terri Yoshinaga from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): mztee22@hotmail.com

First Name: Terri

Last Name: Yoshinaga

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96822

From: [Tiffany Lum](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:48:48 PM

Tiffany Lum from Aiea, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): uluihiokalani@yahoo.com

First Name: Tiffany

Last Name: Lum

City: Aiea
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96797

From: [Wendy Taylor](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:27:50 PM

Wendy Taylor from Honolulu, HI writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): wjtaylor@hawaii.edu

First Name: Wendy

Last Name: Taylor

City: Honolulu
State: HI
ZIP Code: 96839

From: [Yonnie Derr](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: In Support of SB 1084, 1093 and 1095
Date: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 2:42:37 AM

Yonnie Derr from Nacogdoches, TX writes:

To: Senator David Ige, Chair; Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair; Senate Committee on Ways and Means Re: SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095, RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION and SCHOOL READINESS. Honorable Chair Ige & Committee Members: Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of Senate Bills 1084, 1093, and 1095. All three of these measures are critical to ensuring that Hawaii's four-year-olds will have the quality early learning experience they deserve. These measures are important to me because a statewide early childhood education program would not only prepare children for school, but it would also foster exceptional physical and emotional development. These factors, altogether, are key components in producing healthy, capable, and contributing adults. Many studies have proven that high-quality early childhood education programs have both short- and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 and SB 1095 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also have the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs; currently families in Hawaii pay on average \$720/month per child for preschool. It is important to secure a solid foundation for our children in order to ensure a more successful, healthy, and promising future for us all. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SBs 1084, 1093, and 1095.

Form Data:

Email 1 (Primary): yderr@email.com

First Name: Yonnie

Last Name: Derr

City: Nacogdoches
State: TX
ZIP Code: 75964