

Written Testimony
presented before the
Senate Committee on Education
January 30, 2012, 1:20 p.m., Conf. Room 414

by
Donald B. Young

RE: SB 1095 RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING EDUCATION

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee on Education;

My name is Donald Young. I am currently Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and chair your Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC). On behalf of the TECC, I am submitting testimony in support of SB 1095. The TECC members, representing the following education organizations, unanimously support this position statement.

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

**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.

From: [Cinzia Olter](#)
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Subject: Re: SB1095 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
Date: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 10:49:20 AM

To: Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Education

From: Cinzia Olter

Re: SB1095 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Honorable Chairs & Committee Members:

I support SB1095, which, upon amending Article X, Section 1, of the Hawaii State Constitution, establishes a statewide early childhood education program geared towards establishing a solid foundation for children's future educational and career success. SB1095 is 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-term and long-term benefits for children, individuals, and society as a whole. SB1093 would provide parents with more access to these essential programs and also has the potential to alleviate financial burdens associated with early childhood education costs.

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 SB1095.



Testimony Presented to the
Senate Committee on Education

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 2:00 pm

by
Chaminade University of Honolulu Education Dean
Dr. Joe Peters

SB 1095
Relating to Early Childhood Education

Chairperson Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee on Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB 1095** establishing the Early Childhood Education Program within the early learning system.

The Education Division at Chaminade University of Honolulu is in full support of SB 1095 establishing the Early Childhood Education Program within the early learning system. As a member of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee, we also support the following joint position statement.

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.

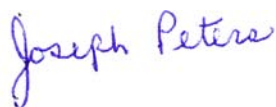
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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.





Testimony Presented to the
Senate Committee on Education

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 1:20 pm

by
Chaminade University of Honolulu President
Bro. Bernard J. Ploeger, SM, Ph.D.

SB 1095
Relating to Early Childhood Education

Chairperson Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee on Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of SB 1095 establishing the Early Childhood Education Program within the early learning system.

Chaminade University of Honolulu supports the intent of the legislation to establish a statewide early childhood education system. Hawaii is one of only 11 states without a state-funded preschool program. Early childhood education programs have immediate and long-term benefits for all children. Ability to afford these programs should not be a criteria in provision of services. All of Hawaii's children need to have the opportunity at the earliest age to succeed. An established statewide early childhood education program is the way to provide this opportunity.

Thank you for allowing us to submit this testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bro Bernard J Ploeger, SM". The signature is written in a cursive style.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: romaj@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1095 on Jan 30, 2013 13:20PM*
Date: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 3:32:15 PM

SB1095

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2013 13:20PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roma Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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

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