



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

Date: 03/28/2014

Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2768,SD2,HD1(hscr1051-14) RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN.

Purpose of Bill: Amends the compulsory education law to make kindergarten mandatory. Develops a statewide individualized kindergarten readiness system and establishes an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system. Appropriates funds. Effective July 1, 2014. (SB2768 HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2768 SD2 HD1 that mandates kindergarten for children who will be five years of age by July 31 of the school year.

The Department, in collaboration with the Executive Office on Early Learning, is committed to developing a comprehensive kindergarten program of instruction, providing professional development for kindergarten teachers, and implementing an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING
HONOLULU

GG WEISENFELD
DIRECTOR

Testimony in **Support** of
S.B. 2768 H.D. 1, Relating to Kindergarten
By GG Weisenfeld, Director

House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014
3:00 p.m., Room 308

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

Good afternoon. I am GG Weisenfeld, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL is in support of Senate Bill 2768, House Draft 1.

The purpose of this bill is to make kindergarten mandatory for a child who will be at least five years of age on or before July 31 of the school year. The bill further requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Executive Office on Early Learning, to develop a statewide individualized kindergarten readiness system and establish an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system.

EOEL supports the provision to make kindergarten mandatory.

Across the nation, most school districts require that a child be five years old before entering kindergarten or become five in the first month of school. In 2012, 39 states and the District of Columbia had cutoff dates of September (usually the first day of school) or earlier.

As we work to implement an early learning system in Hawaii, it makes sense to have mandatory kindergarten to promote the continuity of children's experiences from prekindergarten to kindergarten. While most children enroll in kindergarten, some families do not feel compelled to send their children to school on a consistent basis because it is not mandatory. Without the skills that can be gained through a kindergarten experience, these children may have to play

catch up with their peers in first grade. This may leave the child feeling discouraged and put them in a position to fall further behind.

With the adoption of the Common Core State Standards for kindergarten to grade 12, it is even more important now that kindergarten be made mandatory so Hawaii's children can meet the academic requirements of K-12.

EOEL also supports the requirement of this bill that EOEL cooperate with the Department of Education to develop a statewide individualized kindergarten readiness system. As EOEL develops a prekindergarten program for four-year-olds, it is important that the School Readiness and Early Childhood Education programs align with the DOE kindergarten program. A kindergarten readiness assessment system is an important part of achieving this alignment.

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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN
DIRECTOR

BARBARA A. YAMASHITA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

March 28, 2014

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2768, S.D. 2, H.D.1 – RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN**

Hearing: Friday, March 28, 2014; 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purposes of this bill are to make kindergarten mandatory for a child who will be at least five years of age on July 31 of the school year; requires the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Executive Office on Early Learning, to develop a statewide kindergarten readiness program; establishes an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment; and makes an appropriation to the Department of Education.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill and defers to the Department of Education and the Executive Office on Early Learning on the implementation of its provisions.

Act 169, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, established the existing child care assistance program, called Preschool Open Doors, as the statewide school readiness program to be administered by the Department of Human Services.

The Preschool Open Doors (POD) program serves low- to moderate-income families whose late-born children are affected by the change in kindergarten entry age in the 2014-2015 school year or whose children will be eligible for kindergarten in the following school year.

Requiring that kindergarten attendance be mandatory under the compulsory education law would require children enrolled in the POD program to attend kindergarten in the following year and will promote continuity of the children's early learning experiences and thus maximizing the value of the POD program. Children will have the needed school-readiness skills they experienced in a preschool setting through the POD program and will be ready to apply those skills in kindergarten.

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



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

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON FINANCE

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

DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2014

RE: S.B. 2768, SD2, HD1 – RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN

PERSON TESTIFYING: WIL OKABE
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Honorable Chair Sylvia Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) **wholeheartedly supports S.B. 2768, SD2, HD1 relating to Kindergarten, and offers amendments to the bill.**

HSTA is the exclusive representative of more than 13,500 public and charter schoolteachers statewide. As the state affiliate of the 3.2 million members of the National Education Association, HSTA believes that kindergarten should be mandatory and adequate funding should be provided by the state to make kindergarten available to all five year olds.

Kindergarten is an essential part of early childhood education, providing key introductions to reading, writing, mathematics, science, and peer socialization. While President Obama's State Of The Union Address referred to the proliferation of pre-kindergarten programs throughout the United States, studies show that pre-kindergarten programs are most effective when coupled with quality kindergarten education, which serves as an important transitional function in teaching basic academic and social skills that prepare children for lifelong learning. The National Center for Education Statistics states that over the course of a single year, kindergarten students can improve reading and math scores by 10 and 8 percentile points, respectively. Kindergarten offers long-term benefits to society as well, including crime reduction, decreased healthcare costs, and improved job growth. Between promoting academic success and advancing socio-economic prosperity, kindergarten effectively defines success for future generations.

In Hawaii, approximately 97 percent of children currently eligible to attend kindergarten do so. The remaining 3 percent amounts to 500-600 students, however, a population size nearly as large as the target group covered by the governor's proposal to use vacant public school space to provide early childhood instruction to at-risk youth. If providing quality early childhood instruction is a state goal, we feel that it is incumbent upon policymakers to ensure that all students are afforded the opportunity to maximize

their potential. Since not all children attend preschool, maximizing early childhood education can only be achieved by instituting a mandatory kindergarten program that covers all students under the certified professionals of our state's public schools. Notably, implementing a mandatory kindergarten program will also help schools struggling to find new positions for early childhood education teachers whose jobs are in danger of being cut because of the repeal of junior kindergarten.

That said, we encourage you to amend page 1, line 6 of the bill to read: "...least [~~six~~] five years on or before December 31 of the school year," which will implement a program that encapsulates all children in need of early childhood education alternatives, including the estimated 7,000 late-born "gap" children who won't be 5-years-old by the first day of school this year. While the governor has proposed a public-private partnership to expand preschool opportunities in the islands, we feel that this proposal represents a voucher program in which public funds will be used to subsidize private education. Expenditures made for the governor's program would likely be non-transparent, as the state has faced difficulty in tracking public funds currently used to support students with special needs who are placed in private school settings. Moreover, the governor's program, explicitly relies on faith-based preschools, blurring the line separating church and state and running afoul of the Constitution's Establishment Clause. Implementing a mandatory kindergarten program with a December deadline faces none of these problems, erases the state's crisis over early childhood education offerings, and most importantly keeps early learning in the hands of highly qualified and certified public school teachers.

HSTA supports full day mandatory Kindergarten programs. If early childhood education is a priority, then schools should have mandatory kindergarten in our compulsory attendance laws before a new project is started.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2768, SD2, HD1.



Testimony presented before the
House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 at 3:00 pm
By Karen C. Lee, Ed.D.
Executive Director, Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education

SB 2768, SD2, HD1: Relating to Kindergarten.

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:
SB 2768, SD2, HD1 makes kindergarten mandatory. It develops a statewide individualized kindergarten readiness system and establishes an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system, effective July 1, 2014.

Hawaii P-20 strongly supports this bill. As an organization that works in partnership with the Executive Office on Early Learning, the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii, Hawaii P-20 works to improve the educational pipeline and facilitates seamless educational experiences across systems. Full-day kindergarten is essential to create the educational, socio-emotional and physical building blocks to success in latter years in the K-12 education system and beyond.

In particular, Hawaii P-20 strongly supports the creation of an appropriate individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system. Currently, schools create or adopt their own assessments in order to survey incoming students' readiness for school. Many of these tools are not developmentally appropriate, cumbersome to administer, and expensive. Moreover, they do not provide any uniform data to the Hawaii Department of Education about children's readiness or consistent feedback to early learning programs about their preparation of children or feedback to parents and families about their child's learning and development. It is absolutely essential that the state begin to collect data about individual child readiness for kindergarten in order to improve the preparedness of children, aid teachers in providing differentiated learning techniques, and for longitudinal studies about education outcomes. At Hawaii P-20, we have witnessed the incredible gains made by teachers and their students in our pilot programs instituting an individualized assessment of kindergarten children.

Furthermore, we strongly support the request for the funding of an appropriate assessment tool, as well as the ongoing training necessary on the chosen tool. The Hawaii Department of Education cannot be expected to implement a new statewide assessment system without adequate funding. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Hawai'i P-20

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII • SINCLAIR LIBRARY, ROOM 504 • 2425 CAMPUS ROAD • HONOLULU, HI 96822

Office: 808-956-3879 | Fax: 808-956-8037

www.p20hawaii.org



March 26, 2014

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

FROM: Deborah Zysman
Executive Director
Good Beginnings Alliance

RE: **Testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1: RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN.**

The Good Beginnings Alliance **supports SB2768 SD2 HD1**, which seeks to make kindergarten mandatory in Hawaii for a child who is at least five years old on July 31 of the school year. The measure also calls on the Department of Education and the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) to collaborate on developing kindergarten readiness program and an individual readiness assessment system.

As the Hawaii state legislature continues to develop and invest in a comprehensive early childhood education system, the inclusion of mandatory Kindergarten makes sense. Kindergarten education provides Hawaii's children an unparalleled educational experience that ensures age appropriate reading and writing proficiency, as well important interpersonal skills. Currently, over 95% of Hawaii children attend kindergarten.

Importantly, SB2768 SD2 HD1 also provides for the development of a new individual student assessment system to replace the current Hawaii state school readiness assessment (HSSRA). GBA supports this effort as it is an invaluable tool to help measure the skills and abilities of children entering the DOE system, as well as the range of preschool and childcare experiences that a child may or may not have had. This information helps teachers and families better address an individual student's needs, and helps policymakers better address the needs of our overall education system.

SB2768 SD2 HD1 ensures that mandatory Kindergarten in our state comes with the quality oversight, investment in teacher training and resources, and protections for parents who choose not to take part in the proposed assessment system. Thank you for your ongoing support of this and other early learning measures before you this session.

Sincerely,
Deborah Zysman
Executive Director
Good Beginnings Alliance



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Friday, March 28, 2014 at 3:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

RE: SENATE BILL 2768 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO KINDERGARTEN

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

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 2768 SD2 HD1, which amends the compulsory education law to make kindergarten mandatory and develops a statewide individualized kindergarten readiness system and establishes an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system.

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

The Chamber believes that this measure must be in place to properly equip Hawaii's youth with important life skills. The Chamber strongly believes that children need to attend kindergarten or risk following behind their peers. While non-attendance is not a large segment of the population it is important that as many children attend kindergarten. Also as it is voluntary, sometimes children who are not ready to advance to the next level are allowed to move forward.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

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

March 28, 2013

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

This testimony is submitted in support for SB2768 SD2 HD1, requiring Kindergarten to be mandatory, and establishing a statewide Kindergarten readiness and assessment system.

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

The Coalition supports mandatory Kindergarten for our students. The Coalition in recent years has supported Early Learning legislation, as our members believe that the earlier a child is exposed to school, the better outcomes for student achievement. SB2768 makes clear that all five-year olds are required to attend school, ensuring consistency from a pre-Kindergarten program to a Kindergarten program. We have heard from school administrators that while most children enroll in Kindergarten, because it is not mandatory, some families will not feel compelled to send their children to school on consistent basis. Therefore, along with the change in legislation, we also recommend an outreach program be implemented to educate families about the change in the law along with the importance of daily attendance.

The Coalition also supports establishing a uniform statewide Kindergarten readiness process as well as an individualized Kindergarten readiness assessment system. We like that there will be collaboration between the Executive Office of Early Learning and the Department of Education, so that alignment is maintained.

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

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Member List

Academy 21
Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
Center for Civic Education
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*DOE Windward District
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
*Good Beginnings Alliance
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
*Hawaii State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
Keiki to Career
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds

Our Public School

*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning
*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Punahou School PUEO Program
Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
YMCA of Honolulu
Voting Members (*)

finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 11:09 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: vanessa_romo@ymail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ANELA	aha punana leo	Support	No

Comments: THERE ARE MANY OHANA OUT THERE THAT HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THIS BY THIS RECENT PASSING OF A BILL THAT EXCLUDES CERTAIN AGED CHILDREN TO FROM ADVANCING ON TO KINDERGARTEN. I AM A PARENT FROM PUNANA LEO O KAUAI AND I BELIEVE THESE EXTRA FUNDS WOULD BE OF ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES WHO HAVE TO KEEP THEIR CHILD/REN IN A 3RD YEAR OF PRESCHOOL. IT WILL ALLOW THESE KIDS TO NOT ONLY CONTINUE WITH WHAT THEY LEARNED BUT TO BETTER THEMSELVES AND READY THEMSELVES FOR THEIR NEXT YEAR IN KINDERGARTEN. IT WILL ALLOW THEM AND THEIR OHANA TO NOT HAVE TO STRUGGLE NOT ONLY WITH THEIR FINANCES, BUT WITH THE FACT THAT THEIR KEIKI DIDNT ATTEND A 3RD YEAR OF PRESCHOOL BECAUSE FINANCIALLY THEY COULDNT IF THESE EXTRA FUNDS ARENT PASSED FOR THOSE OHANA. SO PLEASE, THINK OF THE KEIKI AND T HEIR OHANA AND ALLOW THESE EXTRA FUNDS FOR A CONTINUED EDUCATION.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Jessica Ewali‘ili‘ilani Kuamoo and I am an employee of ‘Aha Pūnana leo and also a parent of two boys in the Hawaiian Medium education system. This program plays a crucial part in our community and our state, and having the support of our state would only further the success of our keiki’s education.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Jessica Ewali‘ili‘ilani Kuamoo

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Oralani Koa and I am a teacher at the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian Immersion preschool. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Oralani Koa

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Tiana Leimomi Anderson and I am a teacher at the 'Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian Immersion preschool. I will also be a parent of a child who will be entering into the same Hawaiian Immersion educational program. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Tiana Leimomi Anderson

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Dawnserly Namau‘u and I am a teacher at the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian Immersion preschool. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII‘S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kāko‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Dawnserly Namau‘u

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōkōlanu Pōkō Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

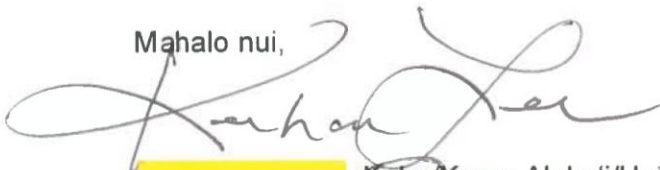
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



Kahua Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōkōlanu Pōkō

Kōkōlanu Pōkō

Mahalo, Mahalo, Mahalo
Nui loa ʻō
Much appreciation for your
support & consideration. Aloha Nui

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Pūnana Leo. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

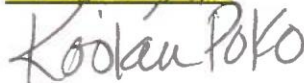
It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

 Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōpūpūpū

 Koolau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōolau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


Kani Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōolau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōkua Pōkō. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

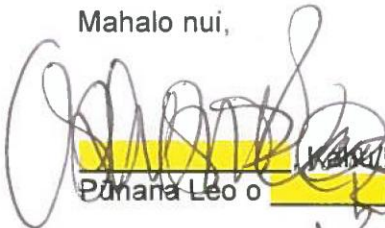
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


Kōkua Pōkō
Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōkua Pōkō

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōkua Pōkō. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōkua Pōkō

Kōkua Pōkō

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is **Natajah Kekawa-Maynes**, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Natajah Kekawa-Maynes

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kyla K. Manzano and I am a teacher and a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who is attending a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom next year. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Kyla Keakealani Manzano

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kaleimaile A. Robia and I am a teacher at a Pūnana Leo preschool. The students that graduate from our preschool enter into a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of **SB2768 SD2 WITH AMENDMENTS**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o piha i nā loli, (With support of amendemnts),

na Kaleimaile A. Robia

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Sondra Maleka K Tolentino and I am a teacher and a parent of a child attended a Pūnana Leo preschool who is attending a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kāko‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Sondra Maleka K Tolentino

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Hilo. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI 'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI 'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai 'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

Naupaka Joaquin, Parent, Employee
Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Hilo, **Hi'i Pēpē (Infant and toddler)**. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI 'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI 'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai 'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

Jessica Ewali'ililani Kuamoo, Kahu Hi'i
Pūnana Leo o Hilo.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Maui. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

Kaleimaile Robia, Kumu Alaka'i
Pūnana Leo o Maui

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Mānoa. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI 'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI 'I'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai 'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

Leimomi Anderson, Kahu/Kumu Alaka 'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kaua‘i. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The ‘Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu and Kaua‘i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered ‘Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai‘i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai‘i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

Kamaluokalani Almodova, Kumu Alaka‘i
Pūnana Leo o Kaua‘i

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Pauliane Kaleonani Kekela Kalauoka‘ae‘a-Kahele and I am a parent of seven daughters, with three children attending Ke Kula ‘o Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u, a Hawaiian Medium Education school, and one who will be attending a Pūnana Leo school next year. I am also a student at Ka Haka‘ula o Ke‘elikōlani and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Pauliane Kaleonani Kekela Kalauoka‘ae‘a-Kahele

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 5:53 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: akdmcnicoll@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/25/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alika K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support with amendments. Hearing: House Committee on Finance March 28, 2014 3:00p Conference Room 308 Re: SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and members of the House Committee on Finance, Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the words within the brackets: Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction [IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES] as part of the public school system. Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards [APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE]. It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction. The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

1288 Kapiolani Blvd, Apt 1905
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
March 25, 2014

Re: SB2768, SD2, HD1 – Testimony in Support
Hearing, Friday, March 28, 2014, 3:00 p.m., room 308

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

Aloha mai, kākou

I am writing in strong support of SB2768, SD2, HD1 that would amend the compulsory education law to make kindergarten mandatory and require the development of a statewide individualized kindergarten readiness system and establish an individualized kindergarten readiness assessment system.

However, **strongly recommend this bill be amended to clearly convey kindergarten education through the medium of English and Hawaiian.** The Hawaii state constitution recognizes the official languages of the State of Hawaii to be both of these languages. Too, kindergarten is the gateway to not only public school education but also to Hawaiian Immersion and Charter Schools. Thus, offering this medium of education would prepare the kindergarten student to transition more easily to these schools.

Accordingly, please support SB2768, SD2, HD1 with amendment to include kindergarten education through the medium of English and Hawaiian.

Respectfully,

LEIMOMI KHAN
via on line testimony

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

Friday, March 28, 2014

3:00pm

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

COMMENTS ONLY FOR AMENDMENT CONSIDERATION

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

My name is Nāko‘olani Warrington. I am a retired State of Hawai‘i Department of Education elementary school teacher. During my tenure as a DOE teacher, I taught in both Hawaiian medium and English medium schools. I have also been a teacher at private and public preschools delivering instruction in both of Hawai‘i’s official languages, a resource teacher in English medium schools, a substitute teacher for public and private K-12 schools in both Hawaiian and English and a program assistant at a nonprofit Hawaiian language preschool organization. I am grateful for the many wonderful opportunities I have had to teach Hawai‘i’s amazing children in Hawai‘i’s two distinct pathways of learning through Hawai‘i’s two official languages.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide the following comments with regard to **SB2768**.

The purpose of SB2768, as stated in the measure, is to “improve early childhood education in Hawaii.” However, nowhere in this bill are there any provisions for, or acknowledgements of, Hawai‘i having **TWO OFFICIAL LANGUAGES WITH TWO PATHWAYS OF LEARNING**. I speak from experience when I testify that education in Hawai‘i will only truly improve once there is equity for learning in **BOTH OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**. A significant group of children being educated through the medium of the indigenous language of Hawai‘i are not being equitably considered in SB2768 and, in fact, may be harmed unless amendments are made to SB2768, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S TWO OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S TWO OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**.

In February of this year, Hawaiian medium students and their families were thrilled when the State of Hawai‘i’s Board of Education reaffirmed and strengthened its commitment to Hawaiian Medium Education, **kindergarten** through grade 12, in public schools. The BOE’s newly adopted 2014 policy states, “*Hawaii’s public education system should embody Hawaiian values, language, culture and history as a foundation to prepare students in grades K-12 for success in college, career and communities, locally and globally.*” **SB2768 must be amended** to reflect this same commitment as this bill directly affects the same Hawaiian Medium Education students as the BOE policy.

In closing, the Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that develops excellent individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities.

Please amend SB2768 as indicated in the underlined above.

Mahalo,
Nāko‘olani Warrington

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 8:59 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: pua_kona@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehaulani Shintani	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the underlined: Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system. Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE. It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Terry Kimokeo and I am a grandparent of a child who attended a Pūnana Leo preschool and who is at a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom at this time. I have four more grandchildren who will be attending a Punana Leo preschool in the near future and will continue into a Hawaiian Medium Education School. My three children graduated from Hawaiian Medium Education schools and I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in their success as students, as parents and as members of their community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kāko'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Terry Kimokeo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:53 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: Kanoe@ahapunanaleo.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanoe Kanakaole	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I would like to offer my support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the underlined: Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system. Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawaii early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE. It is critical to note the benefits of an early start in education, as a parent I believe that mandatory kindergarten will help our keiki succeed in pursuing higher education and impact the economic development of Hawaii. However, I also find it necessary to ensure that standards and measure adopted by the State of Hawai'i will not compromise and/or hinder progress of those students who are educated in either of Hawaii's two official languages. Far too often, Hawaii's people forget our unique status as the only state in the nation with two official languages. Another fact that is often overlooked is the differences in literacy development between the Hawaiian and English languages. There are distinct strategies in English which are not applicable to Hawaiian language literacy. To ensure that learning standards acknowledge this, I strongly urge the State to seek counsel with the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani and/or 'Aha Kauleo who are competent in providing education and support in the development of appropriate standards for Hawaiian speaking learners. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill. Sincerely, Kanoe Kanaka'ole

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Dana K. Hayashida and I am a parent of four children that have attended and graduated from the Pūnana Leo o Hilo preschool. My youngest is currently enrolled at Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u, a Hawaiian Medium Education school, in the kindergarten class. I would like to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in the success of my 'ohana as parents, students, individuals and as members of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Dana K. Hayashida

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 10:37 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kawailehua@ahapunaleo.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM*

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kawailehua Castillo	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Rachel E. K. Soares and I am a teacher Pūnana Leo o Ko'olauloa preschool. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

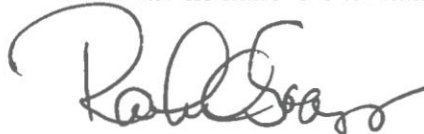
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Rachel E. K. Soares

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 11:25 AM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: waiulu@ahapunaleo.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dionne Waiulu Fernandez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hearing: House Committee on Finance March 28, 2014 3:00p Conference Room 308 Re: SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson and members of the House Committee on Finance, My name is Dionne Waiulu Fernandez. I am a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, and as a member of my community. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the underlined: Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system. Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE. It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction. The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa. Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations) Dionne Waiulu Fernandez

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Talia Baileu and I am a parent of two child attending Ke Kula ‘O Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my children’s success in school and as members of our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kāko‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Talia Bailey

27 Malaki 2014

Kōmike: Committee on Finance

Lā Ho'olohe Pila: Friday, March 28, 2014 @ 3pm

Lumi hālāwai: Conference Room 308

Mana'o: Testimony in **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS of SB2768 SD2**

HD1: Relating to Kindergarten.

Aloha mai kākou e ka Lunaho'omalua 'o Sylvia Luke a me ka Hope
Lunaho'omalua 'o Scott Nishimoto, a me nā lālā o ke Kōmike Kālā.
*Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Scott Nishimoto and members of the
Committee on Finance.*

'O au 'o Kea Kalā a eia nō au ke hō'ike mana'o nei i ke kāko'o i ka pila SB
2768 SD2 HD1 me nā loli:

*My name is Kea Kalā and I am submitting testimony in support of SB
2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments:*

- To include use of Hawaiian in kindergarten equal to use of English in kindergarten;
- To include funding to the Hawaiian Language College to help create the assessments and teacher training in Hawaiian Medium Education.

It is stunning that the Hawaiian Medium Education continues to be forgotten in legislation that is being considered for mandatory kindergarten and individualized assessments.

Mahalo nui,



Kea Kalā

27 March 2014

House of Representative Committee on Finance
Friday, March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Testimony in ***SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS*** of SB 2826 S.D.2 – Relating to Early Childhood Education

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

My name is Kaimana Cabebe. I am a former ECE educator in the Hilo area. I am very stunned that the Hawaiian medium education continues to be forgotten in legislation that is being considered for mandatory kindergarten and individualized assessments.

I am submitting testimony in support of SB 2768 S.D. 2 **with 2 amendments** as follows:

INCLUDE use of Hawaiian in kindergarten equal to use of English in Kindergarten.

INCLUDE funding for Hawaiian Language College to create assessments in Hawaiian and training for teachers.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony of this bill.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

na Kaimana Cabebe

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Jeriel Kamaluokalani Almodova and I am a parent of a child currently attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be enrolling in a Hawaiian Medium Education program in the fall of 2015.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE**.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's **official language mediums of instruction** and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are **aligned to the medium of instruction**.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Jeriel Kamaluokalani Almodova

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 1:48 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: punohu@ahapunanaleo.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2768 on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM

SB2768

Submitted on: 3/27/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 28, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
andrew meade	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: support with admendments reflecting the inclusion of BOTH official languages of the state of Hawaii. Assessment and Standards should be the language of instruction in either of Hawaii two official languages.

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

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Nalu Barrett and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I would like to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my child's success as a student, myself as a parent and also as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

'O au me ka 'oia'i'o mau,



na Nalu Barrett



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

LATE

House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
Friday, March 28, 2014
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 308

SB 2768, SD2 HD1– Relating to Kindergarten

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and members of the committee. Hawai'i Association for the Education of Young Children (HAEYC) supports the intent of SB 2768, SD2 HD1.

Making kindergarten mandatory would demonstrate the state's continued commitment to quality early childhood education. HAEYC supports the use of an appropriate assessment system that is used to benefit the child, used in planning curriculum, and is not used for high stakes decisions. Data collected should be used appropriately to improve classroom instruction. Data used to evaluate teacher effectiveness must be carefully thought out and planned.

HAEYC also supports the reinstatement of a state level Early Childhood Specialist with appropriate support at the district levels.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

From: Philip Tumbaga testifying as a private citizen.
To: Chair Sylvia Luke of the House Committee on Finance.
For: Hearing on 3/28/2014 at 3pm
Regarding: SB 2768, SD2, HD1



I am testifying in opposition to SB2768. While I am not against early mandatory education our current system may have children beginning curriculum that they are not prepared for. Under our current system and based on the intent of this bill children would be required to attend kindergarten at age 5. Unfortunately this age based criteria for beginning primary school is part of our problematic one size fit all education system. The reality is that people mature at different rates and assigning students to grades based on their age will put some students in a situation where they are learning things they may not be prepared for yet.

Kindergarten begins the emphasis on "formal learning" over socialization and play. Some children may not be ready to begin formal education and so would more properly belong in preschool.

Part of what drives our current society to want to be able to start children in public education at an early age has to do with economic realities, it is very common for a family to require income from both parents and so the age at which a child may begin public education coincides with the time when a parent may be able to return to the workforce. There is also an idea that sooner is better, but individual children vary and should not be required to begin primary school until they are developmentally ready. Mandatory schooling for 5 year olds should not be implemented until the State is prepared to provide public preschool for all students who may not be developmentally ready to begin kindergarten with the greatest results.

For these reasons I ask that this committee please consider deferring this bill at the current time.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify,
Philip

P.S. Below are some links to information that may be illustrative.

http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/05_03_04.pdf

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/10302249/Start-schooling-later-than-age-five-say-experts.html>

Based on the letter linked below.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/letters/10302844/The-Government-should-stop-intervening-in-early-education.html>

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00 P.M.

Conference Room 308



Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** – Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is A. Pōmaika'i Baptista and I am a mother of two boys who have attended/currently attends the Pūnana Leo o Hilo preschool program. I am submitting this testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**. My husband and I have a son who attends Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u and who is in the first grade. He is a graduate of Pūnana Leo o Hilo. Our youngest son is currently in his second year at Pūnana Leo o Hilo. Due to the change in the law for school year 2014-2015, he will not be able to graduate from Pūnana Leo o Hilo this school year in June and will have to stay for a third year at preschool. He is born on August 15, 2009 and misses the age cut off by 2 weeks. Having him stay in preschool for a third year is a huge hardship on my family and I, considering also that we didn't have much notice and was expecting him to move onto kindergarten in August of this year. It would be easier for us as a family to have my son attend a babysitter for this extra year due to the cost as opposed to the cost of preschool tuition. I am a teacher, and my husband a police officer and we see the great value that preschool holds and the immense growth that our sons have displayed over their years being a part of the Pūnana Leo preschool program. Acknowledging the value of this preschool program, we choose to pay the tuition and have them continue through this program. This program services the children educationally, spiritually, and affords them a worldview that is unlike any other of their English-speaking counterparts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE**.

It is imperative that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian medium education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful in every sense of the word and driven to serve their communities.

The Hawaiian medium education system has equipped their students with the 21st century skills necessary to live and work not only independently but more importantly interdependently with others within their communities and on a global level as well. They have produced students who are grounded in their culture and language, and mindful of their ancestors but who have a worldview that is unlike any other which allows them to be innovative and contributory to their community.

Na'u me ka mahalo,

Na A. Pōmaika'i Baptista

finance1

LATE

From: coreyrosenlee@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, March 27, 2014 7:42 PM
To: FINTestimony
Subject: Tell House Finance that teachers support SB2768

Corey Rosenlee
91-1053 Noholike St.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706-5125

March 28, 2014

2014 House Committee on Finance

Dear 2014 House Committee on Finance:

HSTA believes that kindergarten should be mandatory and adequate funding should be provided by the state to make kindergarten available to all five year olds.

HSTA supports full day mandatory Kindergarten programs.

Kindergarten is an essential part of early childhood education, providing key introductions to reading, writing, mathematics, science, and peer socialization.

Kindergarten offers long-term benefits to society as well, including crime reduction, decreased healthcare costs, and improved job growth.

A mandatory kindergarten program will also help schools struggling to find new positions for early childhood education teachers whose jobs are in danger of being cut because of the repeal of junior kindergarten.

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

Sincerely,

Corey Rosenlee

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

LATE TESTIMONYRe: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

COMING FROM BOTH A CHARTER SCHOOL AND A HAWAIIAN EMERSION SCHOOL, I FEEL THAT BOTH PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS SHOULD BE TREATED AS EQUALS. I HAD SPENT SOME TIME AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL AND FEEL THAT CHARTER SCHOOLS ARE GOOD AND ARE SOMETIMES BETTER FOR THE CHILDREN. FOR SOME KIDS SMALLER CLASSES ARE A BETTER LEARNING ENVIRONMENT EVERYONE IS THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL BUT IN THE END WE'RE AS ONE, AND IF IT WORKS WHY NOT KEEP IT MOVING FORWARD?

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2** with **amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Dr. Wokun

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kenneth M Pavao Jr. I am the site Coordinator for Punana Leo @ Hilo, Hawaiian medium Education preschool. I fully support **SB2768 SD2** with amendments.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**. specifically adding the underlined:

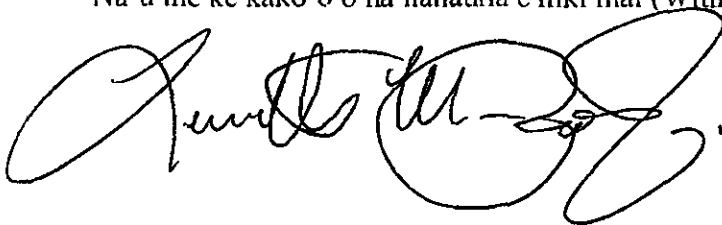
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations).



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

It is very important to have early development ~~to~~ for today's Keiki, they advance faster and pickup on things quicker especially through Hawaiian perspective and cultural and Hawaiian language. It is invaluable.

Enell Atay Proud parent of 3
 Punana Leo Keiki
 Enell Atay

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na 'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

3/27/14

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is 'Alia Gay Pye, I am a technician for 'Imiloa astronomy center and an educator in both traditional western education programs and Hawaiian medium immersion programs.

The support of this types of programs is wondrously vital to our Community. My family supports, and is supported by Hawaiian medium/immersion programs.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

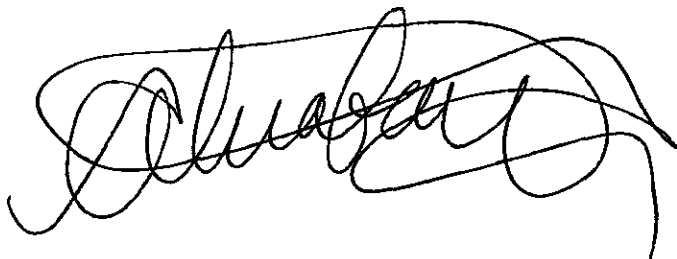
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kēhaulani Wehry, I am a Hawaiian medium education preschool teacher and a proud parent of a child who is educated in the Hawaiian medium education system since he was a preschooler. Hawaii is leading the way for reviving the language and culture so dear to our state, by providing the option of educating our children in the Hawaiian language. Your support is greatly needed and appreciated in this matter, please include the Hawaiian medium education system in your bills.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Mahalo for your time and support

me ke aloha,

Kēhaulani Wehry
Kēhaulani Wehry

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child currently in Hawaiian medium education and intend to send my second also when she comes of age.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


Sarah Amber K. Wakana

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My Name is Pi'ilani Kaawaloa a former teacher, a current parent of Punana Leo and Nawakōkōkalamio Pun. I as for your support with regards to this Bill. I strongly support this Bill because it will benefit families who choose to send their children

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the underlined: to be educated through the Hawaiian Medium Education.

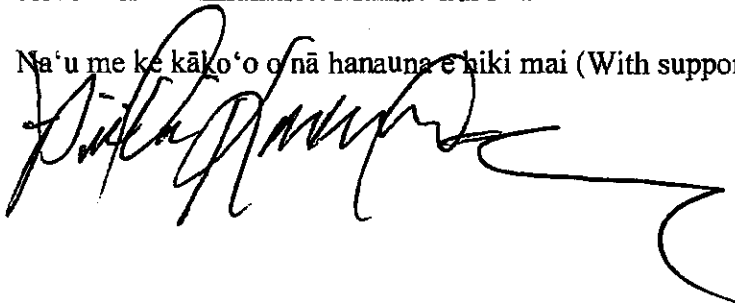
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
 Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a student in a Hawaiian Medium School and ^{our family} ~~we~~ _{KPK} hopes that you support the school where Hawaiian language is practiced and the main ~~language~~ _{KPK} language that it's taught through.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


 Kristy P. Kamoku

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I, Kaiunohokala Pea, a parent of two girls graduated from a Hawaiian medium school and looking forward for our other girl to attend the same preschool.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with **amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Kaiunohokala Pea


Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Suzanne J. Kamalutia Woolley, I'm a parent of a child in Hawaiian Immersion (medium) Kindergarten and a child applied in the AHA Punana Leo o Hilo ²⁰¹⁴⁻²⁰¹⁵ preschool. I believe in this medium of teaching as it is our official language of the state.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

UE KA HALA HA'A,

Suzanne J. Kamalutia Woolley

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

Paul Bueltmann

PO Box 5535

Hilo HI 96720

808 966 4865

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



3/28/14

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

Aloha. My name is Kinikalela Meeken. I am a parent of a keiki currently attending Pūnana Leo o Hilo and because of my keiki being born Sept. 3, 2009, she will be staying back and attending another year at Pūnana Leo o Hilo because of the kindergarten entrance change effective the 2014-2015 school year. I value this school and it's medium of education thru the hawaiian language as we strive to use it as much as possible ⁱⁿ ^{out} ^{the} ^{every} ^{day} ⁱⁿ Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

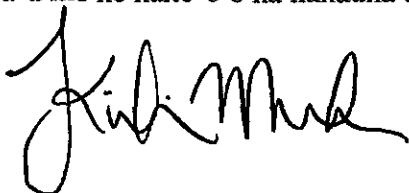
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kinikalela Meeken

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

Hello,
 my name is Kristy Lindsey and I am a proud supported of Hawaiian language schools. My two children attend Punana Leo & Hilo. I support this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

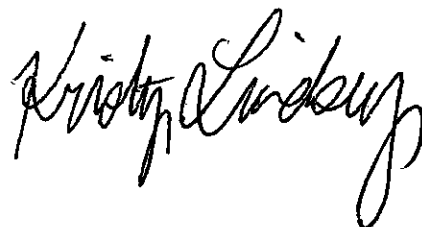
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I would like to express my gratitude for the Hawaiian language schools + education. My daughter Keawaike Wong attends Nawahi-Okalanipua in Kea'au + Punanaoia pre-school in the start of this journey for our children. I support this bill + ask for your Kōkua. Aloha Connie Wong

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Connie Wong

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

PLEASE PASS THIS BILL FOR OUR KID'S
 LOOK AT THE RESULTS OF THE
 HAWAIIAN EDUCATION IS A WAY TO
 (KEEP) OUR KIDS OUT OF THE JAIL

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Maule Keyme

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

all keiki in the state of Hawai'i should be afforded early education! For those of us who speak Hawaiian in the home we want our children's education to be aligned and that can only happen with your support!

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's **official language mediums of instruction** and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are **aligned to the medium of instruction.**

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

na Puamana Deal

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I, Kapua Helm, a proud parent of a student attending Pūnana Leo o Hilo, support the bill and amendments as described below. Students choosing this medium of education should be equally supported and allowed all the privileges given to all other students. It is

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

his/her inherited right.

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

3/27 - Kapua Helm

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

Aloha, My name is Chad Woolley, I am a parent of a student of Nawahi and an applicant and prospective student at Punana o Hilo. It is my firm belief in Hawaiian language as a medium of instruction and I fully support this bill. Respectfully, Chad Woolley

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with **amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

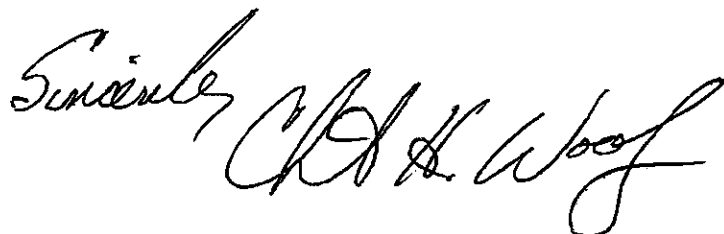
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Sincerely,


Hearing: House Committee on Finance
 March 28, 2014 3:00p
 Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child who has attended Aha Punana Leo since August of 2013. I am amazed at my son's ability to learn and speak Hawaiian and in such a short time and on top of speaking English and Spanish. He is not only learning language but also culture that teaches love and respect for all which is something I really want him to learn and practice. I would like to be able to not only keep my son at this school but also would like to send my youngest son. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

Aloha my name is Janice Urban. I am a
 Polipunehana a "staff member" at Punaneled
 o Hilo and I support this bill. I have a
 passion for what I do and love the children
 and I would do anything for the children's
 education. I support this bill 100%

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

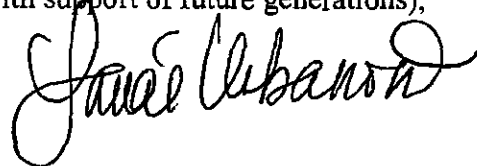
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



SKILLS AND FOUNDATION A HAWAIIAN BASED CURRICUM
 ALLOWS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, AHA PUNANA LEO PROVIDES
 A SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR THE FAMILIES OF STUDENTS
 TO ENSURE THE VALUES & EDUCATION IS PERPETUATED
 AT HOME

MAHALO NUI FAU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION,

Ahalea Lagman
 AHALEA LAGMAN

Salome Lagman
 SALOME LAGMAN

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

OUR DAUGHTER ATTENDS AHA PUNALEO O HILO PRESCHOOL AND WE ARE IN FULL SUPPORT OF 'SB2768 SD2 HD1'. AHA PUNALEO HAS SUPPORTED OUR DAUGHTER NOT ONLY IN LEARNING THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE BUT ALSO IN RECEIVING A QUALITY EDUCATION. THE STAFF OF AHA PUNALEO IS CREDITED IN MOLDING MY DAUGHTER INTELLECTUALLY AND THERE IS NO QUESTION SHE WILL EXCEL THROUGH COLLEGE WITH THE →

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a former student of the Aha Punana Leo and a former student of the Hawaiian medium education community. I feel it is very important for both official state languages to be recognized in all schools.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE**.

It is imperative that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian medium education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful in every sense of the word and driven to serve their communities.

The Hawaiian medium education system has equipped their students with the 21st century skills necessary to live and work not only independently but more importantly interdependently with others within their communities and on a global level as well. They have produced students who are grounded in their culture and language, and mindful of their ancestors but who have a worldview that is unlike any other which allows them to be innovative and contributory to their community.

Na'u me ka mahalo,

Na A. Pōmaika'i Baptista

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00 P.M.

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** – Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is A. Pōmaika'i Baptista and I am a mother of two boys who have attended/currently attends the Pūnana Leo o Hilo preschool program. I am submitting this testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**. My husband and I have a son who attends Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u and who is in the first grade. He is a graduate of Pūnana Leo o Hilo. Our youngest son is currently in his second year at Pūnana Leo o Hilo. Due to the change in the law for school year 2014-2015, he will not be able to graduate from Pūnana Leo o Hilo this school year in June and will have to stay for a third year at preschool. He is born on August 15, 2009 and misses the age cut off by 2 weeks. Having him stay in preschool for a third year is a huge hardship on my family and I, considering also that we didn't have much notice and was expecting him to move onto kindergarten in August of this year. It would be easier for us as a family to have my son attend a babysitter for this extra year due to the cost as opposed to the cost of preschool tuition. I am a teacher, and my husband a police officer and we see the great value that preschool holds and the immense growth that our sons have displayed over their years being a part of the Pūnana Leo preschool program. Acknowledging the value of this preschool program, we choose to pay the tuition and have them continue through this program. This program services the children educationally, spiritually, and affords them a worldview that is unlike any other of their English-speaking counterparts.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments specifically adding the underlined:

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My ohana is in support of this positive cause to help our private education and the future of our keiki. mahalo

Kiyana 'Ohana

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations).

Mahalo nui,
e Kawai.

—
ma

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

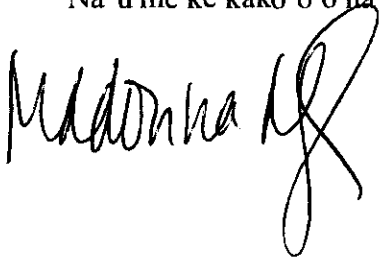
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Madonna" followed by a stylized flourish.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

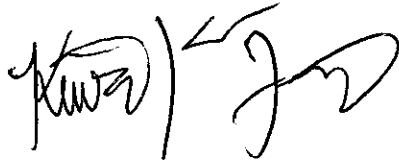
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name or initials, possibly 'Kuwana' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Kanio Kanaka'ole

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

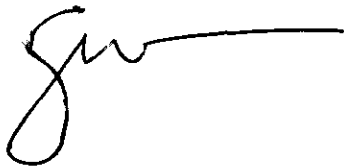
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JW' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

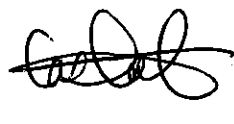
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Kanaiheha 

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Erica L Miles
KMPQ-CRAMME
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a proud parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo o Honolulu preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

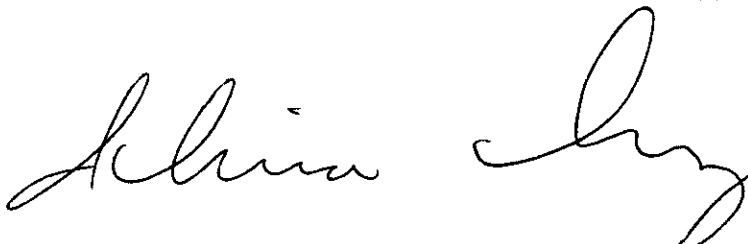
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


setolong@gmail.com
781-8423

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kāko'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Keani Rawlins-Fernandez

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

x ʻAaella Kamana

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

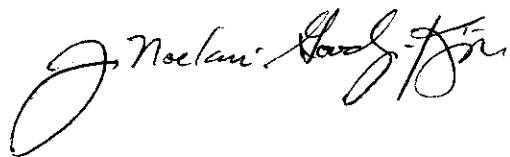
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Noelani Andrews". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and "A".

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly 'M. O. J.', written in a cursive script.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

OHANA PATOC

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

ʻOhana Sato

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Oliver Hanaka-Schaefer

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

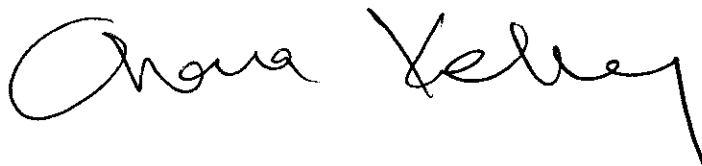
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anona Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the last letter.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

OHANA REILLY

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Na 'Ohana Lee

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

OHANA PAUUA

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script that appears to be the name 'V. Nishimoto'.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2768 SD2 with amendments, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Na 'ōhana Kapuni'ai - Kape'amakaloa Perez

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kāko'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool and I support SB2768 SD2 with amendments. I want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

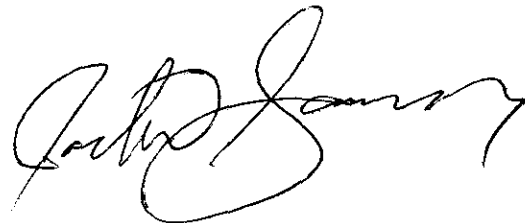
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōlāu Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

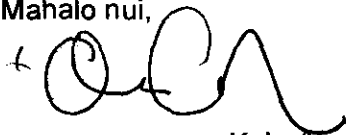
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōlāu Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Koʻolau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

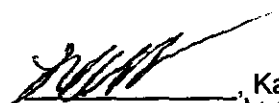
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Koʻolau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten**

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

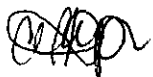
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



Deleste Kahu Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

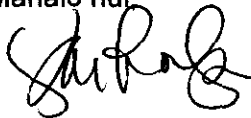
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui



Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten**

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kō'olau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kō'olau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

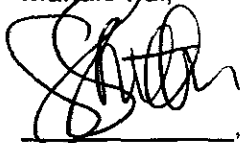
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

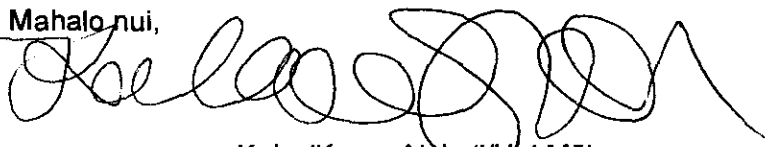
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

X *Ku'ilani Keshokale*

_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

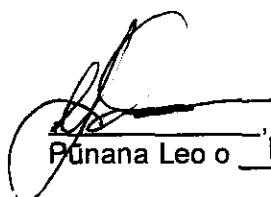
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


_____, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1 - Relating to Kindergarten**

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,


Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Koʻolau Pōko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Koʻolau Pōko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



LEONA LADAO, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

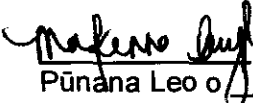
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,

 Makenna Aupuni, Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

This letter is written on behalf of the Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Poko. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 HD1 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system

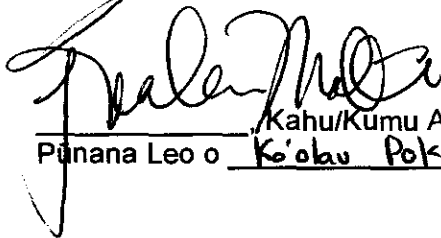
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGES

It is important to clarify that mandatory kindergarten includes two official language mediums of instruction. It is also important to recognize that standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, a non-profit Native Hawaiian educational organization established in 1983 due in great part to our family engagement component, is the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning preschool system. With 11 full-day and year-round center-based sites on Hawai'i, Maui, Moloka'i, O'ahu and Kaua'i, our mission to revitalize the Hawaiian language through high quality preschool experiences will be greatly and positively impacted with the passing of this bill.

Thirty years of grassroots, family-driven child-centered 'Aha Pūnana Leo early childhood education and follow-up K-12 Hawaiian medium education have proven successful with Pūnana Leo graduates equipped to pursue post high degrees here in Hawai'i and beyond at well known institutions such as Dartmouth, Long Island University Post, Loyola Marymount, Oxford, and Stanford. The vision of a successful Hawai'i high school graduate is embodied in a Pūnana Leo child whose foundation for success in school and life was formed at a Pūnana Leo preschool.

Mahalo nui,



Kahu/Kumu Alaka'i/Hui Mākua, apwa
Pūnana Leo o Kōʻolau Poko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Makenna Laughlin, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

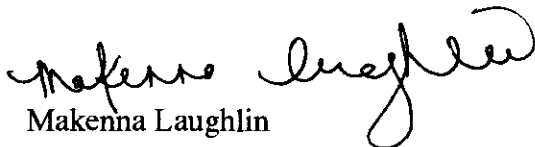
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


Makenna Laughlin

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Adeina Keohokalole, and I am a parent of a child attending/attended a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom. I am also a supporter of Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the importance of having this kind of cultural education teachings in the educational system because of the success experiences I have had with my keiki as a student in Pūnana Leo, as a parent, and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations).
Mahalo nui loa.

Adeina K. Keohokalole

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Keleka Hookano, and I am a parent of a child attending/attended a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom. I am also a supporter of Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the importance of having this kind of cultural education teachings in the educational system because of the success experiences I have had with my keiki as a student in Pūnana Leo, as a parent, and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

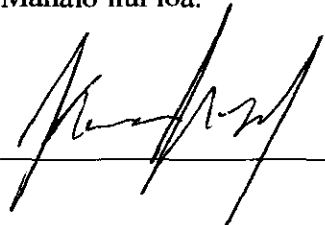
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations).
Mahalo nui loa.



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kona Yam, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kona Yam

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kacie Hookano, and I am a parent of a child attending/attended a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom. I am also a supporter of Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the importance of having this kind of cultural education teachings in the educational system because of the success experiences I have had with my keiki as a student in Pūnana Leo, as a parent, and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations).
Mahalo nui loa.



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kawika Bowen, and I am a parent of a child attending/attended a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom. I am also a supporter of Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the importance of having this kind of cultural education teachings in the educational system because of the success experiences I have had with my keiki as a student in Pūnana Leo, as a parent, and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

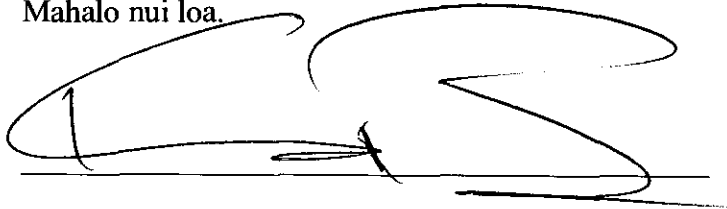
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations).
Mahalo nui loa.



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Nainoa Makaiwi, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Nainoa Makaiwi

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kealani Makaiwi, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kealani Makaiwi

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kila Keohokapu, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

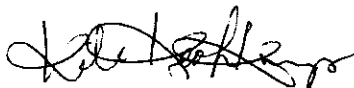
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kila Keohokapu

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is James Bolosan, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



James Bolosan

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Shawna-Lei Smith, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Shawna-Lei Smith

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kealoha Domingo, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kealoha Domingo

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Ku'ulani Keohokalole, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

x *Ku'ulani Keohokalole*

Ku'ulani Keohokalole

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Chris Gormley, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

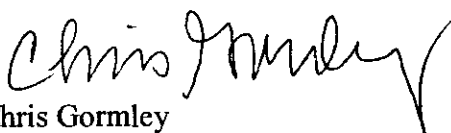
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


Chris Gormley

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Puanani Connelly, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Puanani Connelly

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kapono Barboza, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kapono Barboza

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kaniaala Anthony, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kaniaala Anthony

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Anuenue Punua, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Anuenue Punua

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Leona Ladao, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

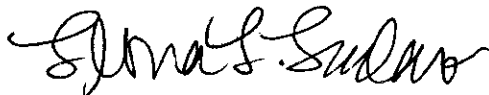
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Leona Ladao

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kuuleilani Reyes, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kuuleilani Reyes

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Nalani Barrett, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Nalani Barrett

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Gino Iosia, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

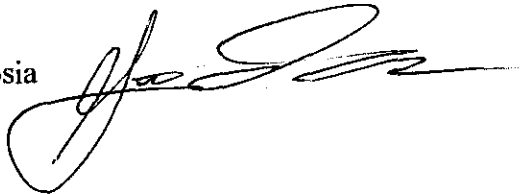
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Gino Iosia



Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Maleko Kamahalohanuilai, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Maleko Kamahalohanuilai

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kawika Smith, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kawika Smith

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Armance Flores, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

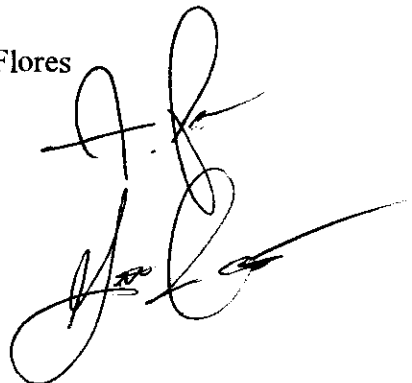
Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),

Armance Flores

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Flores', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Crystal Kamahalohanuilai, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:


Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction IN EITHER OF HAWAI‘I’S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai‘i early learning and development standards APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai‘i’s official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na‘u me ke kākō‘o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


Crystal Kamahalohanuilai

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kaeo Kiko, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Kaeo Kiko

Hearing: House Committee on Finance

March 28, 2014 3:00p

Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Celeste Keohokapu, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

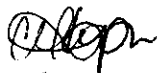
Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAI'I'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),



Celeste Keohokapu

Hearing: House Committee on Finance
March 28, 2014 3:00p
Conference Room 308

Re: **SB2768 SD2 HD1** - Relating to Kindergarten

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

My name is Kalaunuola Domingo, and I am a parent of a child attending a Pūnana Leo preschool who will be entering a Hawaiian Medium Education kindergarten classroom in the fall. I am also a former student of the same Hawaiian Medium Education program and want to acknowledge the important role that this educational system has held in my success as a student, as a parent and as a member of my community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB2768 SD2 with amendments**, specifically adding the underlined:

Page 3 Section 3 (a) The department shall establish and maintain kindergartens with a program of instruction **IN EITHER OF HAWAII'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES** as part of the public school system.

Page 8 Section 6 (b) (3) Align with Hawai'i early learning and development standards **APPROPRIATE FOR EITHER OFFICIAL STATE LANGUAGE.**

It is important that this bill for mandatory kindergarten align with both of Hawai'i's official language mediums of instruction and also recognizes that both standards and assessments are aligned to the medium of instruction.

The Hawaiian Medium Education system and the support it provides for both students and their families, from preschool through the doctoral level, has proven time and again to be an environment that creates individuals who are successful, respectful and driven to serve their communities. Mahalo nui loa.

Na'u me ke kākō'o o nā hanauna e hiki mai (With support of future generations),


Kalaunuola Domingo