

# SCR 132 /

# SR 94

## Testimony

Measure Title: REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO TO ESTABLISH A FORMAL ASSOCIATION WITH AND PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR THE RISE 21ST CENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Report Title: UH Hilo; R.I.S.E. Program

Description:

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HRE, WAM

Introducer(s): SOLOMON, KAHELE, Galuteria, Green, Ruderman

LAW OFFICES OF  
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March 26, 2013

Chairman Taniguchi  
Vice Chairman Kahele  
Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Re: SCR132 and SR94 / March 28, 2013  
Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Taniguchi, Vice Chairman Kahele, and Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

My name is Stanley H Roehrig. I am a local boy. I was born and raised in Manoa and moved with my young wife to Hilo to practice law in 1966. We raised our family in Hilo and we have been here ever since. I met Keahi Warfield, the architect for the RISE After School Program, in about 2002 on the campus of UH Hilo. We have been friends ever since. My wife and I are dedicated to seeing the proper development of Keahi's RISE Program as a permanent part of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, 'Imiloa Outreach Program.

For many years, those of who live in the Keaukaha area have recognized the importance of a first rate after school program for youngsters between ages 8 and 18. We want them to have a chance to get into Hawaii Community College and into the various Baccalaureate Programs at UH Hilo. This group needs special attention after school if we are going to achieve that. Many of them don't get a warm dinner at home. Many of them live with their grandparents. Keahi is a born leader down here in Keaukaha. We believe that he and his team will be successful in their after school program efforts if we properly support them during the early years until it is up and running.

UH Hilo has no extra funds for a new program, consequently, the senate resolution will need to be amended to reflect that this new RISE Program will merely be an extension of the existing 'Imiloa Outreach Program and will have no impact on the current UH Hilo budget. The Budget Proviso draft, Exhibit "A", was drafted by UH Hilo Chancellor Straney's Executive Assistant Gail Makuakane-Lundin, who is currently in Washington D.C. The proviso reflects in part that, "the RISE Program will be coordinated by the UH Hilo 'Imiloa Astronomy Education Center administration as an outreach to the Keaukaha/Panaewa area, designed to provide early preparation for entry into the Hawaii Community College and the Baccalaureate Programs at the University of Hawaii, Hilo. Funding for this program shall not replace or adversely impact existing Hawaii Community College or UH Hilo funded programs or priorities".

We agree to work around these budget constraints. Ka'iu Kimura and Keahi Warfield have been having weekly discussions on curriculum development. The curriculum development and infrastructure planning will continue until our first group of RISE participants starts the program in September of 2013 at the Doc Hill premises, here in Keaukaha.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley H. Roehrig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stanley H. Roehrig

Exhibit "A"

SHR/jmm

HOUSE BILL \_\_\_\_\_

BUDGET PROVISIO DRAFT

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_: Provided that the University of Hawaii, Hilo, (UOH 210), shall establish the Keaukaha/Panaewa Hawaiian Homes after-school program known as R.I.S.E. (Revealing Individual Strengths For Excellence) to be coordinated by the U.H. Hilo 'Imiloa Astronomy Education Center administration as an outreach to the Keaukaha/Panaewa area, designed to provide early preparation for entry into the Hawaii Community College and the Baccalaureate Programs at the University of Hawaii, Hilo. Funding of this program shall not replace or adversely impact existing Hawaii Community College or U.H. Hilo funded programs or priorities.

EXHIBIT A

Keahi Warfield  
Executive Director  
R.I.S.E.  
REVEALING INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS FOR EXCELLENCE  
21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM  
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March 26, 2013

Chairman Taniguchi  
Vice Chairman Kahele  
Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Re: SCR132 and SR94 / March 28, 2013

Dear Chairman Taniguchi, Vice Chairman Kahele, and Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

Aloha my name is Shadd Keahi Warfield. I am a child of Keaukaha Hawaiian Homestead community where I have lived for 32 years. I have been educated in western, traditional and non-traditional ways of learning and make a decent living by servicing our youth as a teacher.

I have been involved in numerous community projects and have advocated, organized and funded a variety of indigenous education opportunities as a means to offset drug and alcohol abuse, poverty, suicide and domestic abuse amongst our youth. My main goal is to *Reveal* the *Individual Strengths* of our youth for *Excellence*. By establishing a relationship with our University of Hawaii at Hilo as well as Hawaii Community College through the Imiloa Astronomy Center, we will reach above and beyond to create a more fluid path to get our community youth into more Higher Educational Opportunities.

I am hopeful that when I meet you in person my story will compel you to support SCR132 and SR94. The reason is simple; we must nurture and provide positive venues to enhance individual growth, self-confidence, leadership and self-discipline amongst our youth to sustain our Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration into this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Shadd Keahi Warfield

March 27, 2013

Chairman Taniguchi  
Vice Chairman Kahele  
Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Re: SCR132/SR94, Requesting the University of Hawai'i at Hilo to Establish a Formal Association with and Provide a Sufficient Funding for the RISE 21<sup>st</sup> Century After-School Program.

My name is Gail Makuakāne-Lundin, a 20-year resident of Keaukaha and a community representative on the Board of Directors of Ka 'Umeke Ka'eo Public Charter School.

The Hawaiian culture-based strategies present in the RISE 21<sup>st</sup> Century After-School Program, provides an ideal environment our Native Hawaiian learners need in Keaukaha. Research has shown that culture-based learning and well as learning within a cultural context: cultural values and behaviors, learning styles and place and physical environment increases student self-esteem and resiliency, leading to positive student performance and behavior. The proposal is an opportunity for UH Hilo to further collaborate and to increase higher education and career options to members of the Keaukaha community. However, it will require additional resources in the future to be allocated to UH Hilo to successfully establish a formal association with RISE.

I support the intent of SCR132/SR94 and thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Aloha,

Gail M. Makuakāne-Lundin

March 26, 2013

Chairman Taniguchi  
Vice Chairman Kahele  
Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Re: SCR132 and SR94 / March 28, 2013  
Letter of Support

**'IMILOA**  
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Aloha kākou Chairman Taniguchi, Vice Chairman Kahele, and Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of SCR132 and SR94 and the relationship between the RISE After School Program and the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center.

Since opening in 2006, the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i – University of Hawai'i at Hilo - has emerged as a major new cultural institution serving the Island of Hawai'i and the world beyond. 'Imiloa is a popular success, serving over 50,000 visitors each year, as well as a major education asset for the Island.

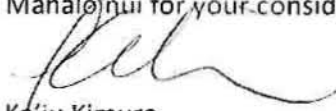
*'Imiloa's mission is to honor Maunakea by sharing the culture and science of the mountain to inspire generations.*

Science and culture united provides a powerful and inspiring story, and it would be hard to imagine anywhere in the world better suited to tell that story than on the Island of Hawai'i, at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo where world-class science coexists with a rich and remarkable indigenous culture. 'Imiloa not only serves as an educational outreach to the general community, but it more importantly serves as a connector and pipeline for K-12 student and teacher engagement with higher educational resources and opportunities.

At the same time, 'Imiloa today remains a work in progress. Recognizing that 'Imiloa has yet to achieve its full potential, the leadership and staff are cultivating community partnerships that targets greater engagement by Hawai'i Island youth with the resources of the University of Hawai'i. The partnership that we've cultivated with the RISE program directly relates to our priority of serving as an pipeline to higher education.

Therefore, we support the approval of SCR132 and SR94 provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget. The 'Imiloa Astronomy Center would serve as a bridge between the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and the youth of Keaukaha and Pana'ewa through the RISE program and its efforts by creating mentorship opportunities, project based learning activities, and also peer mentoring opportunities between youth groups of the Island.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,



Ka'iu Kimura  
Executive Director