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April 2, 2013

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi
Senator Gilbert Kahele
Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 132

Gentlemen:

In January of 2007, I retired from the Hawaii Police Department after completing thirty-five years of service, most of which was spent, in one capacity or another, in the Uniformed Patrol Division. Subsequently, I became a volunteer coach for Keaukaha Canoe Club, working directly under Keahi Warfield in the Na-Opio program. As a result, I have witnessed first hand his commitment to the Keaukaha/Panaewa Community, and inevitably, to the Big Island community at large.

When he first shared his vision of R.I.S.E. with me, I had no doubt that he would complete the transformation from a written prospectus to a functioning program. We are now implementing the curriculum development stage of the program, and in so doing, we met with staff from Imiloa Astronomy Center. In that meeting we became aware of overlapping spheres of interests and constituencies. It seemed appropriate for us to continue to work together in an informal fashion. Further discussion led to the realization that formalizing this relationship could create benefits for both programs. SCR 132 seeks to accomplish this process.

As a lifelong resident of the State of Hawaii, and a registered and constant voter since 1968, I ask for your support in securing the passage of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Elroy T. L. Osorio, Jr.

Jacob Yung
Vice President
Keaukaha Canoe Club
388 Lauae Yung Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Telephone: (808) 333-2262
[jyung@hawaii.edu](mailto: jyung@hawaii.edu)

April 2, 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 mai kākou,

As a 5th generation native to Keaukaha Homestead I have seen many changes in our neighborhood, residents, youth, and environment in which we live. Being a native Hawaiian from Keaukaha who has attained a college degree and now works within my community, there has been an opportunity to serve as a mentor, role model, and coach. Many negative impacts have disturbed the core values in which we were raised with. Through Keaukaha Canoe Club we have brought back the focus on our Hawaiian youth. Using the Hawaiian Canoe as our vessel of knowledge and core Hawaiian values. We have been able to service our community youth successfully.

The youth need and deserve guidance and opportunity, in order to build self worth, self-confidence, and self-potential. By providing other programs and mentoring within the Keaukaha community the youth can achieve, strengthen, and reveal their potential while being provided with great mentors and leaders through such programs as RISE. They are the next set of leaders, mentors, and role models. The investment in our keiki is most significant in order to restore Hawaiian, cultural, community, traditional, and individual values. Through the RISE program individuals will be provided crucial opportunities in regards to education, athletics, arts, culture, and mainly life. The experience and support will then allow our youth to be successful, confident, and productive individuals.

I provide my support on behalf of the RISE program and hope you will also support SCR132 and SR94. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jacob "Chin" Yung

Naomi Ahu
Administrative Assistant
R.I.S.E.
REVEALING INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS FOR EXCELLENCE
21ST CENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
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April 2, 2013

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

Re: SCR132 and SR94 / April 4, 2013

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

My name is Naomi Ahu, a 23-year resident of the Hilo district and a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Hilo's College of Business and Economics Baccalaureate program. In addition, I am the sole administrative support for the R.I.S.E program and was instrumental in its initial creation.

I have worked alongside R.I.S.E. Executive Director, Shadd Keahi Warfield on various community projects and programs involving youth in our community (specifically the Keaukaha and Panaewa Hawaiian Homestead areas) for the past 10 years. Through such experiences, I have recognized the challenges our local youth face such as exposure to drugs, alcohol, abuse, poverty, suicide, domestic violence, and more.

It is extremely important for these youth to have exposure to opportunities to offset such behaviors and/or circumstances and to help them recognize their true potential in becoming valuable contributors to the sustainability of our community and future generations. I have extreme confidence that the R.I.S.E. program will contribute greatly to this need, being that it is the only program of its kind in the Hilo district.

An established relationship with the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the Imiloa Astronomy Center would help to increase the higher education and career opportunities for R.I.S.E. youth participants and the larger community; one of the main objectives R.I.S.E. is striving to achieve. Therefore, I greatly support the intent of SCR132/SR94 and truly appreciate your consideration of this important resolution.

Sincerely,

Naomi K. Ahu

KEAUKAHA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 5146, Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Phone: (808) 937-8217

Email:kcaiprez@gmail.com

April 2, 2013

Sen. Brian Taniguchi, Chairman
Sen. Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chairman
And members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Aloha mai kakou,

I am Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa, a native Hawaiian as defined under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) 1920 as amended July 9, 1921 and currently I'm serving as the president of the Keaukaha Community Association, the second oldest Hawaiian homes homestead which will be celebrating our 90th year in existence.

It is our privilege and honor to put our support behind SCR 132 and SR 94 in its relationship to the RISE program being conducted in Keaukaha by Keahi Warfield, in support of the *opio* (youth) of Keaukaha and Panaewa.

This program we believe will help move and motivate our opio to seek all opportunities associated with the science available through programs at Imiloa. We do have a good working relationship at Imiloa and its director Kaiu Kimura with our strong waa (canoe paddling) and wayfaring voyaging program with Kiakahi a double-hulled floating classroom.

Mr. Warfield has the ability and backing of the Keaukaha Community Association to articulate what would be in the best interest of our youth, the Hawaiian culture and the programs he oversee on behalf of Keaukaha/Panaewa.

If any further information is necessary I can be reached @ (808) 937-8217.

E Hana Pono...mai Pono Hana
Do what is Right...Do not just do it!

Ss/ Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa

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 style with a large, prominent "S" at the beginning.

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