

SB2603

Measure Title: MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING.

Report Title: Executive Office on Early Learning; Early Learning Advisory Board; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning and Early Learning Advisory Board for staffing, travel, and attendance at relevant conferences, as applicable.

Companion: [HB2266](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, WAM

Introducer(s): KIDANI, GALUTERIA, HARIMOTO, SHIMABUKURO, Nishihara

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHERINE PAYNE
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR: SB 2603 MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING
DATE: Wednesday, February 3, 2016
TIME: 1:15 PM
COMMITTEE(S): Senate Committee on Education
ROOM: Conference Room 229
FROM: Tom Hutton, Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Testimony in support of the intent of SB2603

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of the intent of Senate Bill 2603, "Making Appropriations for Early Learning."

As you are aware, the Charter School Commission and eighteen Charter School classrooms throughout the state are the recipients of the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Pre-School Development grant that is providing nearly \$15 million dollars to provide 920 income eligible 4-year olds the opportunity to experience a high-quality early education experience in preparation for school. The Commission is working closely with the Office of Early Learning to coordinate our collective efforts to bring a quality early education to more and hopefully all of our young children in Hawaii. With an eye toward the sustainability of this critical initiative beyond the grant period, the Commission strongly supports efforts to continue building Hawaii's early learning infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
1390 Miller Street, Room 303
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

February 2, 2016

TO: Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director

SUBJECT: SB 2603 – MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR EARLY LEARNING
Hearing Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2016
Time: 1:15 p.m.
Location: Conference Room 229

Purpose of Bill: Makes appropriations to the Executive Office on Early Learning and Early Learning Advisory Board for staffing, travel, and attendance at relevant conferences, as applicable.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) supports SB 2603 and would like to thank the introducers of the bill.

EOEL is committed to our mission which is to coordinate efforts to help ensure a solid foundation for Hawai'i's young children, prenatal to age five, by working with partners, families, and communities and connecting policies, programs, and funding in relation to health, safety, early childhood education, and school readiness and success.

Adequate staffing and funding is crucial in order to address the comprehensive tasks of the office, currently in statute.

While the data analyst position is currently in the executive budget, funding for the secretary position and funds for travel are not. EOEL would like to clarify that the appropriation for travel is solely for the purpose of allowing board members to attend meetings and respectfully requests that the language in this measure (p.1, line 5) be revised to read as follows: "\$28,800 for travel for the early learning advisory board."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2603, Relating to Making Appropriates for Early Learning -- Hearing February 03, 2016 at 1:15 PM, Conference Room 239

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Robert G. Peters and I currently serve as the chair of the State Early Learning Advisory Board (ELAB) composed of 19 public and private members representing state departments, the early learning community, philanthropy, and the State university system. The ELAB was established to advise the Executive Office on Early Learning and speaks as an independent voice on issues related to child development as they relate to health, safety and learning for children from 0 – 5.

The ELAB supports SB 2603 and sees the appropriations as critical to the work of the Executive Office on Early Learning if it is to fulfill its responsibilities to our *keiki*. The office is currently under-staffed with only two members and is in great need of clerical support as well as a data processing systems analyst, the former to address the day-to-day needs of the office while the latter position will enable the EOEL to gather/analyse the critical data needed to ascertain issues around pre-K needs, public capacity to meet them and to plan for a future that increases access and equity. This data will also be essential when seeking federal assistance and local philanthropic support.

ELAB would suggest changing the language in the bill to reflect that the \$28,800 amount is strictly for travel expenses and eliminate the reference to “conferences.” Travel expenses are for ELAB members from neighbor Islands to be able to attend both monthly board meetings and participate on subcommittees as needed to ensure all voices are heard.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. I hope you will see the value in moving this legislation forward.

Robert G. Peters, EdD
Early Learning Advisory Board, Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [EDU Testimony](#)
Cc: wc_spurs@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2603 on Feb 3, 2016 13:15PM
Date: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 2:55:59 PM

SB2603

Submitted on: 2/2/2016

Testimony for EDU on Feb 3, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Willie Cadena | CCC Legislative Committee | Support | No |

Comments: Dear Senators Kidani and Harimoto, Date: February 3, 2016 at 1:15 pm in Room 229 Re: Support SB 2603 The 17 Community Children's Councils (CCCs) of Hawaii supports SB2603 relating to education. Makes appropriations to the Executive Board for staffing, travel and attendance at relevant conferences, as applicable. The mission of our CCCs is to provide local forums statewide for all community members to come together as equal partners to discuss and positively affect multiple systems' issues for the benefit of students, families and communities. Thank you. Tom Smith and Jessica Wong-Sumida, Chairs for CCC Leg Committee

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

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