

SB843

Measure Title: RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.
Report Title: Early Childhood Education; Housekeeping
Description: Amends or repeals provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.
Companion: [HB821](#)
Package: None
Current Referral: EDU, WAM
Introducer(s): KIDANI, HARIMOTO, Dela Cruz, Galuteria, Kouchi, Nishihara

Sort by Date		Status Text
1/23/2015	S	Introduced.
1/26/2015	S	Passed First Reading.
1/28/2015	S	Referred to EDU, WAM.
2/10/2015	S	The committee(s) on EDU has scheduled a public hearing on 02-13-15 1:30PM in conference room 229.

S = Senate | H = House | D = Data Systems | \$ = Appropriation measure | ConAm = Constitutional Amendment

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/13/2015
Time: 01:30 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0843 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Purpose of Bill: Amends or repeals provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 843. The Department recognizes the importance of early childhood education, as well its impact upon our children's future outcomes and the state's economic growth.

SB 843 proposes to allow the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) to expend federal funds. The Department suggests that a formula be developed to determine the amount of federal funds to be allocated for the purpose of early childhood education due to specific federal fund expenditure requirements and limitations.



PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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TO: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
Members, Committee on Education

FROM: Scott Morishige, Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: Senate Committee on Education
Friday, February 13, 2015

Testimony in support of SB843, Relating to Early Childhood Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of SB843, which is an important housekeeping measure relating to early childhood education. PHOCUSED is a nonprofit membership and advocacy organization that works together with community stakeholders to impact program and policy change for the most vulnerable in our community, including low-income families with young children in the home.

SB843 will address two critical issues:

- Defines "early childhood education" as "a developmentally appropriate early childhood development program for children from birth until the time they enter kindergarten." This is important to ensure proper boundaries between the role of Executive Office on Early Learning and the role of the Department of Education for K-12 instruction.
- Clearly defines that the Executive Office on Early Learning has the authority to use and expend federal funds for the purpose of early childhood education.

Once again, PHOCUSED urges your support for this bill. These measures are critical to ensure that the Executive Office on Early Learning functions effectively to serve Hawaii's keiki. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at admin@phocused-hawaii.org.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

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

February 13, 2015

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Harimoto and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for SB843, which amends or repeals provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

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.

We support all the changes being proposed in SB843 relating to early education, in particular, the change in the definition of "early childhood education" to mean a developmentally appropriate early childhood development and education program for children from birth until the time they enter kindergarten. We understand that currently there are some definitions that say from birth to age eight, which becomes confusing because it overlaps with the Kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) system. The change would allow clarity in statute, and allow for more efficient and effective handling of early education programs.

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

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
Center for Civic Education
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*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
*Kaho'omiki
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
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 () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*



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Wil Okabe
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Joan Kamila Lewis
Vice President
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Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON EDUCATION

DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2015

RE: S.B. 843 – RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

PERSON TESTIFYING: JOAN LEWIS, VICE PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

The Honorable Chair Michelle Kidani, Honorable Vice Chair Breene Harimoto and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association (HSTA) **supports S.B. 843**, relating to early childhood education.

HSTA has long supported the position that, “early education programs should be provided through the public school system...and federal and state legislation should be enacted to fund and organize the implementation of such programs”. This position was taken by HSTA in 1987 and continues to be our position today.

HSTA took the position in 2014 that “early childhood education programs (preschool and kindergarten) should provide students with learning opportunities that are developmentally appropriate...” Developmentally appropriate curriculum at an early age will equip the preschooler for a successful kindergarten experience.

HSTA submits our testimony in **support of S.B. 843** on behalf of our 13,500+ public and charter statewide school teachers. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

February 13, 2015

To: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair of the Senate Committee on Education,
and Members of the Senate Committee on Education

From: GG Weisenfeld
Wimmie Wong Lui

RE: S.B. No. 843, Relating to Early Childhood Education

Chair Kidani and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

I, along with Wimmie Wong Lui, am presenting testimony regarding S.B. No. 843, Relating to Early Childhood Education, the purpose of which is to amend or repeal provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

We are both private citizens who are interested in advancing early learning in our state.

This bill creates a definition of “early childhood education” that is consistent with the early learning system the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) is tasked with developing pursuant to Section 302L-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The bill ensures the term “early childhood education” is used consistently throughout statute.

S.B. 843 also clarifies that the mission of EOEL is the education of children from birth until the time they enter kindergarten, while the mission of the Hawaii Department of Education is that of children from kindergarten through grade 12.

We are therefore in support of S.B. No. 843. We urge the committee to pass this bill, moving it forward for further consideration.

Thank you.

GG Weisenfeld
193 Pauahilani Place
Kailua HI 96734

Wimmie Wong Lui
724 Prospect Street
Honolulu HI 96813



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Education
Friday, February 13, 2015 at 1:30 P.M.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol**

RE: SENATE BILL 843 RELATING TO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

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

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 843, which amends or repeals provisions of Chapters 302A and 302L, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as related to early childhood education, for housekeeping and other purposes.

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 strongly believes that focusing on early childhood is critical because brain development takes place by age five. We believe it is 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.

Testimony To
The Senate Committee on Education

Friday, February 13, 2015
1:30 pm
Conference Room 229

Re: SB 843 – Related to Early Childhood Education

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

My name is Robert G. Peters and I am a recently retired Head of an independent school in Honolulu which has a pre-K program. Over the past 10 years, I have served as a member of the Early Learning Task Force, the Early Learning Council and the Early Learning Advisory Board. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 843, A Bill for an Act Relating to Early Childhood Education which amends or repeals various provisions of chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

I urge the Committee to move this bill forward. It defines early childhood education as both developmentally appropriate and covering the period from birth until kindergarten entry aligning with the mission of the Executive Office on Early Learning and distinguishing the EOEL mission from that of the Department of Education which addresses K – 12 education.

In addition, SB 843 allows for the use and expending of federal funds for early childhood education by the Executive Office on Early Education. Both provisions help to clarify the place of early learning in an overall state-wide system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Robert G. Peters, EdD