

Honolulu, Hawaii

April 28, 2017

RE: H.B. No. 498  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1  
C.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2017  
State of Hawaii

Sirs:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the House of Representatives to the amendments proposed by the Senate in H.B. No. 498, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to strengthen early learning in Hawaii by:

- (1) Broadening the scope of the early learning program to include early childhood development;
- (2) Adjusting the thresholds at which children are considered "at-risk" or "underserved";
- (3) Expanding the role of the renamed Early Learning Board beyond simply an advisory capacity and amending the powers of certain members of the Board;



- (4) Modifying the membership of the Early Learning Board and making conforming amendments;
- (5) Authorizing the Early Learning Board to appoint and annually evaluate the Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning;
- (6) Requiring the Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning to have taken major coursework in early childhood education and child development and preferably hold an academic degree in the field of early childhood education and child development;
- (7) Requiring the principal and other school personnel to participate in an early learning induction program, prior to opening a public prekindergarten class in a school; and
- (8) Specifying that priority for the Executive Office on Early Learning Public Prekindergarten Program will be extended to four-year-old children who are underserved or at-risk and whose family income is at or below 250 percent of the federal poverty level.

After careful consideration, your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by:

- (1) Establishing the Early Learning Board within the Department of Education for administrative purposes only;
- (2) Providing that the use of preschool classrooms for public preschool programs must be done pursuant to rules adopted pursuant to Chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by the Department of Education;
- (3) Specifying that the underserved and at-risk children served by the Preschool Open Doors Program will be determined by rules adopted by the Department of Human Services; and
- (4) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2017.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 498, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that

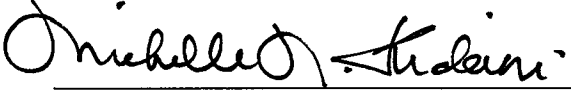


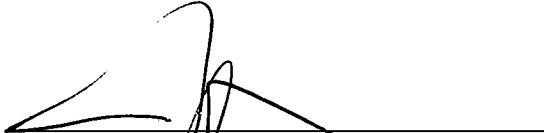
it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 498,  
H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on behalf  
of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHELLE N. KIDANI  
Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUSTIN H. WOODSON  
Co-Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO  
Co-Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MATTHEW S. LOPRESTI  
Co-Chair



**Hawaii State Legislature**  
**Record of Votes of a**  
**Conference Committee**

CCR 170

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: <b>HB 498, HD 1, SD 1</b>	Date/Time: <b>4/27/17 3:00 p.m</b>
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The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.

<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure	<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.
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Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
KIDANI, Michelle N., Chr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				WOODSON, Justin H., Co-Chr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L., Co-Chr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				LOPRESTI, Matthew S., Co-Chr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				OHNO, Takashi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
					MATSUMOTO, Lauren Kealohilani	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>			

A = Aye      WR = Aye with Reservations      N = Nay      E = Excused

Senate Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted	House Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted
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Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 	House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 
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**Distribution:**     
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Senate Clerk's Office     
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