Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Education Committee

Re: GM 724: Confirmation to Early Learning Advisory Board, Gubinatorial Nominee Mari Uehara for a term to expire 06-30-2017

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

As Chair of the Early Learning Advisory Board, I ask that you confirm Mari Uehara to a term on the Early Learning Advisory Board to expire 06-30-2017.

Dr. Uehara will bring an important perspective to our discussions about how best to serve the *keiki* of Hawaii. She is a pediatrician whose understanding of children's development from a physical and social context will greatly assist our work in the ELAB. She will fill one of the key positions included in the originating legislation as a Governor's nominee.

Dr. Uehara has already attended meetings of the ELAB as a member of the public and contributed her ideas to our conversations. She is conversant with the issues being addressed and will quickly find her place on the ELAB.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of Mari Uehara's confirmation to the ELAB.

Sincerely, Robert G. Peters, Chair Early Learning Advisory Board. Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair Senator Kaiali`i Kahele, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Education Committee

Re: GM 724: Confirmation to Early Learning Advisory Board, Gubinatorial Nominee Mari Uehara for a term to expire 06-30-2017

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

It is my pleasure to ask that you confirm Mari Uehara to a term on the Early Learning Advisory Board to expire 06-30-2017.

Having served on the Hawaii Early Intervention Coordinating Council with Dr. Uehara for six years I am aware of the unique perspective she brings to serving young children and families, here in Hawaii. She is a pediatrician whose understanding of children's development from a physical and social context will greatly assist our work in the ELAB. She will fill one of the key positions included in the originating legislation as a Governor's nominee.

Dr. Uehara has been attending meetings of the ELAB as a member of the public for a year now. She is highly respected among her peers and already has a grasp of ELAB's issues.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in strong support of Mari Uehara's confirmation to the ELAB.

Sincerely, Michael C. Fahey

HEICC Representative, Early Learning Advisory Board.