



April 9, 2017

To: Honorable Senate Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani and Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele
From: Elaine Yamashita, Early Childhood Education Professor and Program Coordinator, yamash@hawaii.edu
Re: Support for nomination of Christine Kili Namau'u to the Board of Education

Aloha Senator Kidani, Senator Kahele, and members of the Senate Education Committee:

I am writing to strongly support Christine Kili Namau'u's nomination to the Board of Education to represent Maui.

I have known Kili since 1993, when she started as Kahu/Director of Pūnana Leo o Maui. She immediately saw the importance of her staff having a solid foundation of child development knowledge as well as Hawaiian language, and sent her staff to early childhood education (ECE) classes at then Maui Community College. She set an example by also attending ECE classes. Kili's vision was not only a positive impact for Maui, but for the whole state as the other Pūnana Leo sites followed her example. She pursued her own professional development by earning her Master's in Education with Early Childhood Education emphasis.

Kili has had a continued emphasis on continuous quality improvement for her program. Pūnana Leo o Maui was the first language immersion (and the only) early childhood education program to be accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The program is also accredited by the World Indigenous Nations Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC). NAEYC accreditation recognizes the quality early childhood education program, and WINHEC accreditation recognizes the quality language and cultural components of the program.

Kili is a committed community partner. As stated in her resume, she started the "Holo Holo Ka'a" event that is held annually on our campus. It is an event that is anticipated and enjoyed by a wide cross section of our community. Free language classes for the Pūnana Leo 'ohana are open to all. Kili is a regular guest speaker in two of my classes and consistently informs students of the unique aspects of Pūnana Leo and invites students to be engaged in their community activities.

Kili's background, experience, and vision of education will bring an important voice and perspective to the Board. She is a highly valued colleague and friend with a wide network. She is a connector who gets things done. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Mahalo,

Elaine Yamashita

c: Senators Donovan DelaCruz, Gil Riviere, Will Espero

Senate Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani and Vice Chair Kaiali`i Kahele

RE: Letter of Support for Kili Namau`u to serve as a member of the Board of Education

This is my letter of support for the nomination of Kili Namau`u as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii. I know that from her experience with the community, she will make an excellent member.

I am the current Executive Director of Hui No Ke Ola Pono(HNKOP), which is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the health status of all Native Hawaiians by empowering the present and future generations to be their own health advocates. Our mission is focused on the Native Hawaiian community but we serve the entire Maui community and we do not turn anyone away. I have been in this capacity for the last 4 years. Beginning in 1993, I served as a Health Care Worker and worked my way up to this current position.

During my years of working in non-profit, it has been my experience that effective leaders of Native Hawaiian organizations require a unique set of skills. Kili has many of those unique traits that will enable her to be a successful leader. This is exemplified by her ability to work efficiently to address complex issues through the application of good listening skills along with strong leadership characteristics expressed in confident speech. She has the ability to reach resolution when dealing with complex issues using logic and reason. Her many years of work experience in the Native Hawaiian community, which has provided her with an extensive knowledge of the socio-economic conditions of Native Hawaiians and a thorough understanding of existing policies, programs, and projects established to improve those conditions.

I can attest to her job performance and personal character at different organizations in that, for the last twenty-five past years, she has assisted us greatly in networking, collaborating and contributing to the Hawaiian culture and way of life. I am very impressed with her solid “people skills” and how much she motivates and inspires people. She has always inspired me and it continues today.

I know that her academic background and experience serves her well and will continue to serve her well as a member. What particularly stands out for me, and that makes her an excellent candidate for this position, is her relationships and experiences within the community. She is, in summary, a “cooperative educator” who relates to people, in a mutually accountable way. I believe that she is grounded to teaching, planning, directing, partnering and nurturing learning. I know that Kili possesses this “foundation”.

I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Kili Namau`u to serve as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii. Mahalo for your consideration to this matter. If you have any questions, please call me at (808) 442-6813.

Aloha,

Joseph Gonsalves
Executive Director

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM775

Confirmation of Gubernatorial Nominee **CHRISTINE NAMAU'U** for the Board of Education
Public hearing on 04-12-17 2:45 PM in conference room 229.

DATE: April 9, 2017

TO: Hawai'i State Legislature

FROM: 'Aha Kauleo
Hawai'i Statewide Consortium for Nā Kula Kaiapuni (Hawaiian Language Public Schools)

The 'Aha Kauleo met on Saturday, April 8, 2017 on the island of Kaua'i and voted unanimously to support the nomination of **Christine Namau'u** to the Board of Education.

Christine Namau'u has been a driving force in expanding and developing educational opportunities for our Maui community in the areas of early childhood education, public education, Hawaiian language education, place based and cultural education and community education.

One very notable achievement is her leadership in establishing Hawaiian language classes in partnership with the 'Aha Pūnana Leo and the University of Hawai'i Maui College where any community member is afforded the opportunity to learn Hawaiian.

Christine has also provided the leadership to develop Ho'omaui to become the premier Hawaiian language event on Maui that brings together all public Hawaiian language schools as well as a plethora of community organizations and cultural practitioners.

Lastly, Christine has been an active member in Nā Leo Kāko'o, the parent/community organization for Hawaiian language immersion schools for more than 20 years. Even after all three of her children graduated from public high school, she continued to actively participate.

Overall, Christine's unique ability to collaborate across educational, business and community sectors, her honest and genuine aloha for place and people, her unwavering commitment to public education and her perseverance will be tremendous assets to the Board and the future of education in Hawai'i.

'Aha Kauleo Membership

- Fifteen public Hawaiian language schools
- 'Aha Pūnana Leo
- Hawaiian Language Schools from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Hilo, Maui and Brigham Young University
- College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
- Department of Hawaiian Education, Hawai'i State Department of Education
- Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Kamehameha Schools

'Aha Kauleo 'Aha Ho'okō (Board)

- Kamaoa'e Walk, Pelekikena (President)
- Pōhai Montague-Mullins, Pelekikena Hope (Vice President)
- Kīhāpai Krug, Kākau 'Ōlelo (Secretary)
- Kahele Dukelow, Kākau 'Ōlelo Leka (Corresponding Secretary)



96 Pu'uhonu Place
Hilo, HI 96720
(808) 935-4304
(808) 969-7512

www.ahapunana.org

Ka Papa Alaka'i

Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā,
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers,
Kākau 'Ōlelo

Ka'iu Kimura,
Pu'ukū

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Kī'ope Raymond

Hulilau Wilson

Keawe Lopes

Ka Luna Ho'okele

Executive Director

M. 'Ekekelā Aiona

Nā Papahana

Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Nā Kula Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Family-Based

Preschool Program

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Wai'ānae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Loa

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Time: 2:45PM

Place: Room 229

*Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, Non-Profit Educational Organization
Dedicated to the Revitalization of the Hawaiian Language*

GM 775: consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, **CHRISTINE NĀMAU'U**, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

LETTER OF STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and Members of the Committee:

'O Dr. Kauanoë Kamanā ko'u inoa. 'O wau ka Pelekikena o ka Papa Alaka'i o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo. My name is Dr. Kauanoë Kamanā, President of the Board of Directors of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

It is with great pleasure that the 'Aha Pūnana Leo submits this letter in strong support of Christine "Kili" Nāmau'u's nomination to the Hawai'i State Board of Education. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo respectfully urges this committee to confirm Ms. Nāmau'u's appointment to the Board.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is confident in Christine Nāmau'u's qualifications to serve as a member on the Board of Education. She has a proven record of collaborative leadership, principled integrity, and steadfast commitment to those she serves. Ms. Nāmau'u has worked tirelessly for nearly 25 years as the Kahu (Director) of the Pūnana Leo o Maui preschool. Under Ms. Nāmau'u's outstanding leadership, her preschool has earned a reputation for excellence in numerous aspects of early childhood learning having been confirmed by two educational accreditation

E O I A K A ' Ō L E L O H A W A I ' I

authorities. Known throughout Maui as a high quality learning program, the Pūnana Leo program has expanded to include two additional Maui communities, due in great part to Ms. Nama'u's unrelenting dedication to her students and their families.

A visionary with purpose, Christine Nāmau'u has created and sustained successful events that have proven beneficial for the people of Maui. Children and their families continue to participate in ongoing annual events such as *Holoholo Ka'a*, *Nā Leo Kāko'o o Maui* and *Ho'omau* that promote language, culture and lifelong learning opportunities. As creator, coordinator and manager of these successful events, Ms. Namau'u has been able to instill the revitalization and renormalization of the Hawaiian language in those annual events. They have become engaging, ongoing opportunities to bring the Maui community together.

There is one word that describes Christine Nāmau'u, dedicated. Her children, staff, students and families have over the years conveyed their stories of her unwavering dedication and hard work.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is confident that Christine Nāmau'u will be a true asset to the Board of Education and that she will serve with aloha for all of Hawai'i's people. I respectfully urge you to confirm her to the Board of Education.

Mahalo nui,

Kauanoë Kamanā
President, Board of Directors, 'Aha Pūnana Leo



Native Hawaiian Education Council

April 10, 2017

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Ka`aialii Kahele, Vice Chair
State of Hawai'i Senate
Committee on Education

Via: Electronic Upload - EDUtestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

RE: GM775 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE NAMAU'U, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Aloha 'olua mai,

The Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC or the Council) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE 'KILI' NAMAU`U to the Board of Education.

Kili Namau`u will serve the Board of Education and its statewide public education policy role well; more importantly, she will serve the families and communities of Hawai'i well in strengthening our public education system. Her resume and the Council's personal knowledge of her work, speak to an individual with skills, competencies, experiences and leadership that reflect a mindset for the larger statewide context and experiences from the neighbor islands and the early learning and Hawaiian medium immersion education communities. Her focus, concern and advocacy is always about what is best for families and communities. Kili has demonstrated to our communities that she has the head (e.g., knowledge, skills, competencies, experiences), hands (e.g., work, leadership) and heart (aloha) for the work of education and as such we strongly support her nomination.

The Council **strongly supports** Kili's nomination aligned to:

- A. The Native Hawaiian Education Vision, Mission and Goals as detailed in Attachment A;
- B. NHEC's platform and priorities as articulated in Attachment B, particularly our desire to **Intensify Systems Engagement**, actions that intensify systems level action--- federal, state, primary, secondary, tertiary, national and international, health, housing---to strengthen families and communities; to engage in early learning planning and implementation work; and advancing two pathways of education.



Michelle N. Kidani
Ka`aialii Kahele
April 12, 2017
Page 2

The Council is mindful that Hawai'i operates in a unique context of having a single State Educational Agency (SEA) and Local Educational Agency (LEA); two official languages—English and Hawaiian—that are mediums of instruction in the State's public education system; and a public charter school system that is a blend of Hawaiian language immersion and Hawaiian culture based schools and in the midst of implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)—the most pervasive federal policy change since No Child Left Behind in 2001, returning control to State's by Congressional intent; and working to integrate, holistically and systemically, early learning into our public education system.

The Native Hawaiian Education Council was established in 1994 under the federal Native Hawaiian Education Act. The Council is charged with coordinating, assessing and reporting and making recommendations on the effectiveness of existing education programs for Native Hawaiians, the state of present Native Hawaiian education efforts, and improvements that may be made to existing programs, policies, and procedures to improve the educational attainment of Native Hawaiians.

Please feel free to contact the Council's Executive Director, Dr. Sylvia Hussey, directly via e-mail (sylvia@nhec.org), office (808.523.6432) or mobile (808.221.5477) telephone with any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Lisa M. Watkins-Victorino, Chair

cc: Policy & Advocacy and Executive Committees and staff





KEAOMĀLAMALAMA

www.keaomalalama.org

Nu'ukia (Vision)

'O Hawai'i ke kahua o ka ho'ona'auao.

Hawai'i is the foundation of our learning.

Ala Nu'ukia (Mission)

I nā makahiki he 10 e hiki mai ana e 'ike 'ia ai nā hanauna i mana i ka 'ōlelo a me ka nohona Hawai'i no ka ho'omau 'ana i ke ola pono o ka maui Hawai'i.

In 10 years, kānaka will thrive through the foundation of Hawaiian language, values, practices and wisdom of our kūpuna and new 'ike to sustain abundant communities.

Pahuhopu (Goals)

In the next 10 years, our learning systems will . . .

Goal #1 — 'Ōlelo Hawai'i:

- **Advance 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Expectations**

Develop and implement a clear set of expectations for 'ōlelo Hawai'i that permeates all levels of education.

- **Actualize a Hawaiian Speaking Workforce**

Increase a prepared 'ōlelo Hawai'i workforce to ensure community and 'ohana access and support.

- **Amplify Access and Support**

Increase 'ōlelo Hawai'i context and programming to support the kaiāulu.

- **Achieve Normalization**

Pursue normalization of 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

Goal #2 — 'Ike Hawai'i:

- **Actualize 'Ike Hawai'i**

Increase use of knowledge from traditional and diverse sources.

- **Amplify Leo Hawai'i**

Increase 'ohana and kaiāulu learning and participation.

- **Advance Hana Hawai'i**

Increase resources to support practice and leadership.

Native Hawaiian Education Platform*

‘O Hawai‘i ke kahua o ka ho‘ona‘auao.
Hawai‘i is the foundation of our learning.

Perpetuate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i

Actions on advancing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i expectations; actualizing a Hawaiian speaking workforce; amplifying access and support; and achieve normalization of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i

Amplify Family and Community Voices

Recognizes parents and families as first educators; Actions that inform, illuminate, elevate and strengthen parent, family and community engagement in education

Advance Hawaiian Culture Based Education

Actions that promote further understanding, connecting, supporting and advancing ‘ike and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i: policy and pathways; teachers, leaders and communities; pedagogy and programs; curriculum, instruction, assessment and research practices; and evaluation and accreditation mechanisms.

Intensify Systems Engagement

Actions that intensify systems level action---federal, state, primary, secondary, tertiary, national and international, health, housing—to strengthen families and communities.

* Formal set of principal goals



**Native Hawaiian
Education Council**
735 Bishop Street, Suite 224
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
808-523-6432
www.nhec.org

2017-2018 Native Hawaiian Education Priorities

Native Hawaiian Education Council

Perpetuate 'Ōlelo Hawai'i

- Support the Working Group recommendations re: the Expansion of Hawaiian Language Instruction Throughout the University of Hawai'i Systems.
- Support continuing work on Hawaiian language standards and assessments.

Amplify Family and Community Voices

- Advocate for the effective implementation of ESSA for the benefit of families and communities.
- Aggregate field data on family and community voices by island community.

Advance Hawaiian Culture Based Education

- Illuminate Models and Practices of Innovation.
- Elevate Accreditation Frameworks, Designations and Schools.
 - Create a Native Hawaiian research agenda.
 - Continue Native Hawaiian education meta-evaluation.
- Include CBE in Teacher Education and Preparation Programs and Professional Development

Intensify Systems Engagement

- Continue national advocacy work re: ESSA implementation and Native Control of Native Education.
- Engage in early learning planning and implementation work.
- Advance the implementation of Board of Education Policy E-3 Na Hopena A'o.
- Support the continuing 2-Pathways of Education Design and Development



Native Hawaiian
Education Council
735 Bishop Street, Suite 224
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
808-523-6432
www.nhec.org

841 Bishop St., Suite 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

April 12, 2017

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and Committee Members:

This testimony is submitted in support for GM775, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, gubernatorial nominee, CHRISTINE NAMAU'U, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations, which promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education. Our member list is attached.

One of HE'E Coalition's priorities improving family and community engagement in our schools and Ms. Namau'u extensive experience in supporting families and fostering community partnerships is welcomed. In addition, Ms. Namau'u's work with Pūnana Leo o Maui and her fluency in Hawaiian language brings an important perspective for the Board of Education.

We encourage the Committee to approve Ms. Namau'u's nomination to the Board of Education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration. Our support represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

HE'E Members and Participants

Academy 21

After-School All-Stars Hawaii

Alliance for Place Based Learning

*Castle Complex Community Council

*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS

Coalition for Children with Special Needs

*Faith Action for Community Equity

Fresh Leadership LLC

Girl Scouts Hawaii

Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance

*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice

*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists

Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars

*Hawai'i Charter School Network

*Hawai'i Children's Action Network

Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition

* Hawai'i 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

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

*Native Hawaiian Education Council

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.*

April 10, 2017

State of Hawai'i
Senate Education Committee
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Letter of Support for the Gubernatorial Nomination of Christine Nāmau'u for the Board of Education

Aloha kākou e Senate Education Committee,

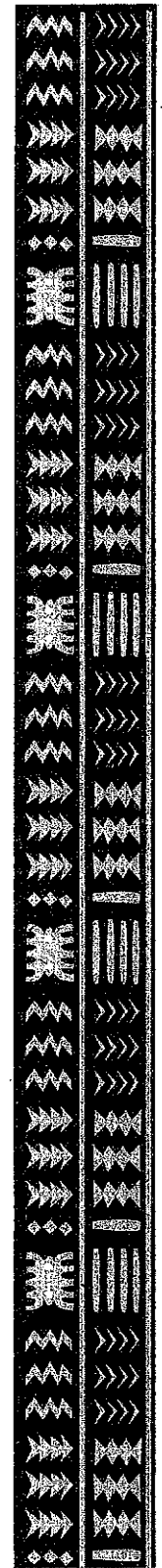
On behalf of Nā Leo Pūlama o Maui, Inc., I am extremely pleased to give our Board of Director's support for the nomination of Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine Nāmau'u, to serve as a valuable member of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Nāmau'u has been a key leader and role model for Maui's Hawaiian immersion community for nearly 25 years. Her passion for Hawai'i's culture and language is what sets her apart from many other community leaders and she has done an incredible job with transferring this passion to thousands of other community members on Maui. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated that she has the skills, knowledge and abilities to perform at a top level such as that of the Board of Education. Her contribution to the Board would be invaluable as she will be able to apply Hawai'i's culture and values into the State's Dept. of Education system.

As Director of Pūnana Leo o Maui, the Hawaiian immersion preschool in Wailuku, Mrs. Nāmau'u has spearheaded its success since 1993. One of her greatest accomplishments, with help from her staff, was achieved when Pūnana Leo o Maui gained accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This accreditation was very difficult to achieve but she had the vision and ambition to see it through.

In addition, she has also fostered hundreds of positive lasting relationships and partnerships with the preschool families and staff. She has an open-door policy at school which welcomes everyone to discuss various topics with her as she shares her objective opinions and gives moral support. For many, these private discussions have been life-changing as people have been inspired to perpetuate the Hawaiian culture through their participation with Pūnana Leo o Maui. Ultimately, her strength lies in her personality which is filled with aloha for all and she truly values each relationship.

She exhibits great enthusiasm and conviction for the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language and culture. Her passion is most often emulated in her work with the students, staff, families and the general community as she encourages them to strive to be the best contributors they can be for the benefit of the Hawaiian culture. She is a woman who leads by example and she is often at the front lines leading the community in activities and



P.O. Box 1038
Wailuku, HI 96793
Tel: (808) 244-5676
Fax: (808) 244-0534

projects which make a difference on a local and global scale.

As a team player, Mrs. Nāmau‘u has been an exceptional leader with advising and guiding our non-profit organization over the years. Nā Leo Pūlama o Maui, Inc. is the parent and community support group of Pūnana Leo o Maui. We work directly together with Mrs. Nāmau‘u to understand the needs and support that is necessary to help Pūnana Leo o Maui succeed. Over the years, this has resulted in creating tuition scholarships for families in need, public educational programs which promote Hawaiian language education for all ages, campaigns and events to raise the community’s awareness of the perpetuation of the Hawaiian language and currently, we are working together to build a new school for Pūnana Leo o Maui so that the enrollment can be increased to serve more students.


Mrs. Nāmau‘u has also been a valuable member in our general Hawaiian immersion community and the Kula Kaiapuni system. She offers great leadership and experience that only a few can compare. During meetings, her opinions and ideas are taken into high consideration, based upon her experience and great historical understanding of how the system works, and often, the group moves in directions that she suggests. Mrs. Nāmau‘u comes to the table with open-mindedness, she is an active participant and is able to take constructive criticism well. All of these traits have gained her the respect that she deserves in Maui’s Hawaiian immersion community.

Finally, on a family level, she and her husband, Michael, have created a strong cultural foundation for their family and it is extremely evident in the successes of their children. Their two daughters have become Hawaiian immersion school teachers and their son is an incredible artist who often creates awe-inspiring cultural artworks. They are grounded in the Hawaiian culture and have built their family values around the culture, setting a great example for Hawaiian immersion families and the general community, of how to be successful with living a lifestyle that is culture- and family-based.

As our Hawaiian kūpuna have said, “‘o ke kāhua ma mua, ma hope ke kūkulu,” meaning, build a foundation first, then build upon it. We believe that Mrs. Nāmau‘u has done an outstanding job in building a solid foundation for Maui’s Hawaiian immersion community and this has been recognized by Governor Ige’s nomination. We strongly encourage you to build upon this firm foundation and allow our state to benefit from Mrs. Nāmau‘u’s expertise by accepting her nomination. She will be an excellent contributor to the State of Hawai‘i’s Board of Education and will be invaluable in our government’s advancement to perpetuate our Hawaiian culture.

Therefore, Nā Leo Pūlama o Maui, wholeheartedly supports the Gubernatorial nomination of Christine Nāmau‘u for the Board of Education. We encourage you to join our support as well.

Mahalo,


Joylynn Paman
Pelekikena (President)



Papa Ola Lokahi

894 Queen Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

TESTIMONY SUPPORTING CONFIRMING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CHRISTINE NAMAU'U FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2020

Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 2:45 PM
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Greetings of aloha to Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kahele and members of the committee,

Papa Ola Lōkahi, the Native Hawaiian Health Board, **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** the confirmation of Ms. Christine Kili Namau'u to the Board Education (Maui seat).

The Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act ([P.L. 111-148, Title 42 USC 122](#))—which authorizes Papa Ola Lōkahi, the five Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems, and the Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program to raise the health status of Native Hawaiians – affirms the value of education in increasing the health and well being of our Native Hawaiian communities.

Ms. Namau'u has demonstrated her capability to engage communities through her numerous efforts as the Director of Punana Leo o Maui. She has tirelessly supported Native Hawaiian education through the Hawaiian Language Immersion medium both as a parent (makua) and community member. Her resume speaks volumes to the amount of time and energy she spends educating, developing partnerships and facilitating dialogue to people in the Maui County communities.

Kili has been partnering with the Hui No Ke Ola Pono [Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Maui] on a variety of projects from health screenings to catering support. She continues to balance Native Hawaiian values with western education to provide efficient social practice in making education a priority.

Throughout her professional career, she continually incorporates traditional practices into her commitment to integrate health into Native Hawaiian families and the communities of Hawaii through advocacy, education, and collaboration. She has initiated activities to increase community partnership; community based participatory activities, and cultural practices and values into education which impacts a person's overall health and wellbeing.

Additionally, Ms. Namau'u's ability to work with diverse populations will make her a valuable representative to serve on this Board, to provide valuable feedback and strategy that provide insight and perspectives unique to our diverse communities, especially bridging Hawaiian Immersion education medium into our public school system.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer support.

Me ka ha'aha'a,
Dr. Sheri Daniels
Executive Director, Papa Ola Lōkahi



Papa Ola Lokahi

894 Queen Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: 808.597.6550 ~ Facsimile: 808.597.6551

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

TESTIMONY SUPPORTING CONFIRMING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CHRISTINE NAMAU'U FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2020

Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 2:45 PM
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Greetings of aloha to Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kahele and members of the committee,

Papa Ola Lōkahi, the Native Hawaiian Health Board, **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** the confirmation of Ms. Christine Kili Namau'u to the Board Education (Maui seat).

The Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act ([P.L. 111-148, Title 42 USC 122](#))—which authorizes Papa Ola Lōkahi, the five Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems, and the Native Hawaiian Health Scholarship Program to raise the health status of Native Hawaiians – affirms the value of education in increasing the health and well being of our Native Hawaiian communities.

Ms. Namau'u has demonstrated her capability to engage communities through her numerous efforts as the Director of Punana Leo o Maui. She has tirelessly supported Native Hawaiian education through the Hawaiian Language Immersion medium both as a parent (makua) and community member. Her resume speaks volumes to the amount of time and energy she spends educating, developing partnerships and facilitating dialogue to people in the Maui County communities.

Kili has been partnering with the Hui No Ke Ola Pono [Native Hawaiian Health Care System on Maui] on a variety of projects from health screenings to catering support. She continues to balance Native Hawaiian values with western education to provide efficient social practice in making education a priority.

Throughout her professional career, she continually incorporates traditional practices into her commitment to integrate health into Native Hawaiian families and the communities of Hawaii through advocacy, education, and collaboration. She has initiated activities to increase community partnership; community based participatory activities, and cultural practices and values into education which impacts a person's overall health and wellbeing.

Additionally, Ms. Namau'u's ability to work with diverse populations will make her a valuable representative to serve on this Board, to provide valuable feedback and strategy that provide insight and perspectives unique to our diverse communities, especially bridging Hawaiian Immersion education medium into our public school system.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer support.

Me ka ha'aha'a,
Dr. Sheri Daniels
Executive Director, Papa Ola Lōkahi

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:19 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: konane.awo@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM*

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Konaneakamahina de la Nux	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

'Ohana Daniels
363 Ohaa Street
Kahului HI 96732
(808) 357-8268

April 10, 2017

SENATE COMMITTEE ON **Education**
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

**TESTIMONY SUPPORTING CONFIRMING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHRISTINE NAMAU'U FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6/30/2020**

Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 2:45 PM
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

Greetings of aloha to Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kahele and members of the committee,

On behalf of myself and my 'ohana, I would like to SUPPORT the confirmation of Christine "Kili" Namauu to the Board of Education (Maui seat).

Being a parent whose children (4) all attended Punana Leo o Maui, the energy and passion Kili has for educating our keiki is amazing. She makes every effort to be inclusive and educate community people on the value of Hawaiian immersion medium education through "leading by example". She never complains and is always at the events, meetings, gatherings to help engage discussion, develop solutions and address plans for long-term sustainability. I am constantly impressed by her on-going, never wavering attitude and commitment to these efforts.


Her ability to reach out to people and actively work on issues makes her the perfect candidate for this appointment. She doesn't back away from any challenge presented to her and always "goes above and beyond". Even when her children have all graduated through the Hawaiian Immersion program, she continues to give of her time, expertise and guidance to any efforts.

Again, it is without reservation that my family and I strongly SUPPORT this confirmation. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Makama Pono,



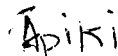
Sheri Daniels



Ryan Daniels



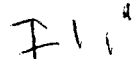
Kaleikoa
(8th grade)



Apiki
(6th grade)



Ohai
(3rd grade)



Ilisapeti
(1st grade)

April 11, 2017

RE: GM 775 – In support of the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE NAMAU'U, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Dear Senate Education Chair, Michelle N. Kidani and Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele.

My name is Trina Ishikawa. I am a parent of a child currently in 5th grade and have another child who will be starting kindergarten next school year. I am also the president of Nā Leo Kāko'o o Maui, Inc., which is the non-profit parent and community support group for Kula Kaiapuni o Maui.

I support Christine Kili Namau'u for the Board of Education for the State of Hawai'i because I believe that she will do the best that she can for our children and students. She has been fundamentally involved in our school community for many years, from being director of Pūnana Leo o Maui to sitting on the SCC board at King Kekaulike High School. Her support of our *keiki* are endless. She is also intricately involved in the support of our community, from dancing in a hula hālau to a windsurfing crewmember. She truly is a valued and respected member of our community

I personally have known Christine Kili Namau'u for over 20 years. My youngest brother attended Pūnana Leo o Maui and from there our families built a close relationship. My perspective of her has ranged from a child who was in school to now, a parent whose kids are in school. As I serve as my first year as being president for Nā Leo Kāko'o, she has been my mentor and is someone that I can always turn to for support. She's has always been a great influence for myself and my siblings, and now for my kids. Kili is a true role model for me and I know that she will be a wonderful member of the Board of Education.

Please support GM775 in having Christine Kili Namau'u as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawai'i. Mahalo for your consideration.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Trina Ishikawa
PO Box 880852
Pukalani, HI 96788

April 11, 2017

Senate Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani
Senate Education Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Kahele:

I'm writing to express my support for Kili Namau`u to serve as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020.

I have known Kili for almost twenty-five years as a colleague, friend, and advisor.

I believe we first met when she brought students from Punana Leo O Maui to the Ma`alaea Community Garden, an organic community garden that provided agricultural education to Maui students. As a Coordinator and Educator of the garden at that time, I was impressed by the immersion preschool's teachers and students, and ultimately consulted with Kili on educational issues from pre-school to high school, as well as native Hawaiian concerns. We have also collaborated on economic development, including issues related to opportunities for our young people, from college to high-tech in Hawaii.

Kili is a dedicated hands-on member of our community who not only works directly with the youngest residents of our state in their formative years, but as a member of the School Community Council for King Kekaulike High School, is actively involved in the final years that our young people spend in education before college. As such, she is aware of the issues facing a diversity of children as they navigate the public school system, with an intimate knowledge of those involved in the Hawaiian Immersion Program.

As the parent of two boys who graduated from King Kekaulike High School, I know how important it is to have Board of Education members whose children have attended public schools, who are themselves directly involved in educating our keiki, and who are passionate, dedicated, principled, knowledgeable – and who deeply care.

Kili Namau`u is that person.

Though my two children are now in college, I still serve as a judge for King Kekaulike Senior Projects and maintain relationships with my fellow parents and their kids. As an active member of our community, I continue to be reminded that what happens in our schools is vitally important to ensuring that we all thrive.

I strongly urge you to support Governor Ige's nomination of Kili Namau`u.

Please feel free to contact me at shay.chanhodges@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Shay Chan Hodges
Haiku, Maui

cc: Donovan Delacruz
Gil Riviere
Will Espero

Dear Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani and Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter in support of Christine "Kili" Namau'u as she continues her legacy of public service as a member of the Board of Education.

Kili is the director of the preschool my children attended, I have witnessed first hand her unwavering dedication to future generations. Kili has seemingly endless energy- working with individual families and community organizations, finding supports and resources to meet the diverse needs of her preschool families.

I am an employee of the Department of Education and I know the complexities of the system we work within. Kili's work ethic is second to none, and her passion to invest her time in meaningful issues make her the woman for this job.

I look forward to hearing the news that our State Senate endorsed a true champion for the keiki of Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

Joy Sarrell Au
(808)573-8735

April 9, 2017

Senate Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani and Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele
Senate Education Committee
cc: Donovan Delacruz, Gil Riviere, and Will Espero

Subject: Legislative Measure GM775, C. Namau'u,
Senate Education Committee Hearing Date 4/12/17

Dear Senator Kidani and Senator Kahele,

I am writing to recommend Ms. Christine Namau'u who has been nominated to serve as a member of the State of Hawaii Board of Education for the term July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020.

Christine aspires to make a difference for all children in Hawaii's public school system and is uniquely qualified to serve on the State Board of Education.

I have known Christine for 25 years, throughout my children's education in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program on Maui beginning at Pūnana Leo preschool, through their high school graduation from Ka Papahana Kaiapuni. Christine has demonstrated a lifetime of service in education at every level—from advocating for students as a member of student government while attending University of Hawaii, to her leadership in Hawaii's early childhood development community, to her involvement in various community school boards. Christine excels at building community partnerships, mentoring individuals toward personal achievements, and identifying resources and solutions to help solve community needs.

Christine will be an asset to the Board of Education as she applies her foundational knowledge of Hawaiian values, language and culture to support the Department of Education's Nā Hopena A'o (HĀ), system designed to include the broader community to develop the competencies that strengthen a sense of belonging, responsibility, aloha, and total-well-being in students across the State of Hawaii.

It has been my privilege to work alongside Christine on dozens of educational and community-based projects for more than two decades, and I am delighted to recommend her without hesitation to serve as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii.

'O wau no me ka ha'aha'a,


Sandy Ryan

April 9, 2017

Lori Dynan
72 R St. NW
Washington, DC
20008

Senate Education Committee

Ms. Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Mr. Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Madame Chair and Mr. Vice Chair,

I am writing today to recommend Ms. Kili Namau'u, for a position on the Board of Education. I have known Kili for roughly twenty years, in both a personal and professional capacity. I met Kili in New York City, New York where I managed a public program in the education division of the Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian. She came to the museum in search of learning materials for the schools she was working with at the time.

Later when I moved to Washington, D.C., to become the Director of Creative Programming at National Geographic, Kili was the fulcrum on which I depended when I was creating and producing a wide variety of Hawai'i themed events and shows.

Early in my tenure at National Geographic, I produced a six-part series about Hawai'i and Kili was pivotal in recommending topics and people whom she felt would provide the greatest educational value for our audiences. The series was a huge success and throughout my 12 years there, Kili contributed immeasurably to productions about Hawai'i. She connected television crews with cultural experts on different islands, and when President Bill Clinton signed the law protecting the waters around the Northern Hawaiian Island Chain at an event at National Geographic, she helped me with protocol and provided me with lei's for him.

Kili refused payment for this work and she did it with enthusiasm and much aloha. Her contributions made my work better and it maintained National Geographic's standard of educational excellence.

I was raised and educated in Hawai'i, and though I have lived on the mainland for many years now, it has been Kili who has been my anchor to home. I have had the privilege of getting to know her family very well, and I have watched her raise three graceful and

kind children. Not only do all three of them speak Hawaiian fluently but they also respect the land and their elders. They are the embodiment of their mother's commitment to education, and two of them have even become teachers themselves.

Kili is a passionate advocate for education on Maui and in Hawai'i. She doesn't just talk about empowering students—and their parents—you can find her out and about actually doing it. She has created fundraising events that have gone on to become highly anticipated annual events, she hosts sports teams from other islands in her home, she sits on a variety of community boards and she supports educational events at several schools in the area.

I witnessed Kili's commitment to education when she returned to the University of Hawai'i to get her masters degree in Early Childhood Education. We talked endlessly about the subjects she was reading and research she was doing. She was and continues to be, inspired by the idea that her work can make a difference in the lives of Hawai'i's children.

I can think of no one who is a more ideal choice for a position on the Board of Education, than Kili Namu'u. Not only does she possess the academic bona fides for this position, she is grounded in aloha. Her heart is immense, her curiosity enormous and her commitment to the children of Hawai'i, certain.

Having worked for two of the largest and most respected educational organizations in the world, I can say with certainty that Kili is a skilled and committed educator. It is my pleasure—indeed my honor—to recommend her for a position on the Hawai'i State Board of Education.

Respectfully,

Lori Dynan

cc: Mr. Donovan Delacruz, Mr. Gil Riviere, and Mr. Will Espero.

April 11, 2017

Rebecca Kapolei Kiili
King Kekaulike High School
121 Kula Highway
Pukalani, HI 96768

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Kahele,

My name is Rebecca Kapolei Kiili. I am a resident of Maui and am currently teaching at King Kekaulike High School on Maui in the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program (HLIP) . I have 13 years of teaching experience in the HLIP and am also a proud graduate of our state public school system along with our University of Hawaii system schools. I believe that education is my contribution to our community.

I am writing in strong support of GM 775 for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, Christine Namau'u for a term to expire 06-30-2020. I believe that her dedication to Hawai'i's schools is strong and her commitment to the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program is steadfast and unwavering. Her years of experience as well as her work in the community attest to her ability and leadership.

I first met Christine as a high school student who volunteered with the Pūnana Leo o Maui preschool program because of my desire to learn to speak Hawaiian. This experience eventually led me to my current career and field of study for my undergraduate work. When I began my teaching career, she was welcoming and supportive and is always cognizant of community needs. She is involved, engaged, sincere, and compassionate in her position of creating quality educational experiences for families and the larger community.

The Maui community has benefited greatly from her leadership and I wholeheartedly believe that she can take her experiences and passion to the level of a Board of Education member to positively impact our educational experiences and pathways for all of Hawai'i's children. She will be a valuable asset to the Board of Education and I strongly support her nomination and confirmation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Me ka mahalo,

Rebecca Kapolei Kiili

Rebecca Kapolei Kiili

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 12, 2017
2:45PM
Conference Room 229

Strong support for GM 775
Relating to Christine Namau'u's nomination to the Board of Education

Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kahele and members of the Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of the nomination of Christine "Kili" Namau'u to the Board of Education. I appreciate this opportunity to strongly support Ms. Namau'u confirmation.

I have known Ms. Namau'u for years and I have always admired her work ethic and integrity. As the father of two sons who are graduates of King Kekaulike High School on Maui, I know how important it is that Hawaii's public education system works for everyone.

I believe that Ms. Namau'u's more than two decades of experience in education on Maui as well as her background in the visitor industry and finance will enable her to bring a much needed perspective to the BOE.

I respectfully ask that you confirm Christine Namau'u to a seat on the Board of Education, for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

Thank you.

Ian Chan Hodges
Haiku, Maui
(808) 573-1000

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 12:02 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: heenalu05@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allen	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I have known and worked with Kili for almost 17 years. We got to know each other working on various committees committed to Hawaiian Immersion Education. Kili is one of if not the most committed educator I know. She understand complex issues and is willing to see things from different perspectives. I have no doubt that Kilo will do what is best for education in Hawaii.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

April 12, 2017

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Kidani, Chair Kahele and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is in support of GM775, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE 'KILI' NAMAU'U, for a term to expire 06-03-2020.

We are a group of advocates from Native Hawaiian, parent, disability, higher education, multilingual, social justice, and education reform communities who have come together to look at opportunities and risks for advancing equity and improving achievement under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

We are committed to equity in education through either of the state's official languages, English and Hawaiian. We are concerned for specified groups that need particular attention - students with disabilities, students who do not speak the language of instruction, students with socio-economic challenges, and racial and ethnic groups that have historically not succeeded in our schools relative to others.

Ms. Namau'u has done an outstanding job in her work as kahu or director of the Pūnana Leo o Maui and has been very active in the community in other initiatives, especially on behalf of the Hawaiian-speaking children in the public schools. She is an excellent choice and will serve the larger goals of public schools including the many distinct needs of different populations of Native Hawaiian students.

We strongly encourage the Committee to approve her nomination.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Cheri Nakamura
Sylvia Hussey
Patricia Halagao
Brook Chapman DeSousa
Gavin Thornton
William Pila Wilson

I would like to submit a testimony of support on behalf of **Christine Kili Namau'u** as a member of the Board of Education. Mrs. Namau'u is a very influential figure within the Maui community both as a Hawaiian Culture and Educational advocate. Through her time as the Punana Leo O Maui Kahu, she has helped to influence many young Hawaiian families to become more involved with their keiki both in education and within their daily lives. Her ability to gather many and lead them into a greater good is unique and yet very needed today. Many young adults tend to be more involved with their own lives and seem to fall short on being true supports of our education system and their children within it; but I have personally seen Mrs. Namau'u gather many of these types of families and taught them how to be more involved with education and why it was important for them to be.

I would like to bear my testimony, the **Christine Kili Namau'u** would be a great asset to the State Board of Education for the 2017-2020 term. Please accept Christine Kili Namau'u.

Mahalo Nui,

Kristy Stone

April 12, 2017

Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Kidani, Chair Kahele and Members of the Committee,

This testimony is in support of GM727, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Advisory Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MAUREEN 'NĀMAKA' RAWLINS, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.

We are a group of advocates from Native Hawaiian, parent, disability, higher education, multilingual, social justice, and education reform communities who have come together to look at opportunities and risks for advancing equity and improving achievement under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

We are committed to equity in education through either of the state's official languages, English and Hawaiian. We are concerned for specified groups that need particular attention - students with disabilities, students who do not speak the language of instruction, students with socio-economic challenges, and racial and ethnic groups that have historically not succeeded in our schools relative to others.

Ms. Rawlins is a recognized expert on early education, native language schools, programs and policy. She has actively participated in the development and leadership of Aha Pūnana Leo. She has also served as a State Advisory Council Member for the State Department of Labor Office of Language Access, which has given her experience with working with EL students and access rights for non-English speakers. Ms. Rawlins also served as Chair of the Native Hawaiian Education Council and also as a board member of the National Indian Education Association, which gives her perspective not only on the educational issues of Native Hawaiian children but also of minorities in general which includes those with disabilities and the homeless but from less visible populations.

We strongly encourage the Committee to approve her nomination.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Cheri Nakamura
Sylvia Hussey
Patricia Halagao
Brook Chapman DeSousa
Gavin Thornton
William Pila Wilson

Sommer Kimokeo
kkimokeo@gmail.com
28239 Kalialani Circle
Pukalani Hi 96768

Subject: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE NAMAU'U, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Dear Committee on Education and whom it may concern,

I am submitting this letter of support for **CHRISTINE "KILI" NAMAU'U** to serve as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii. She is a leader in our community and always strives for excellence in education and support of our Native Hawaiian community and our greater community. She is someone in the community that people trust and can rely on for our educational needs. Christine Kili Namau'u is needed as a member of the Board of Education. Her value is unsurpassed because she is knowledgeable in and has experience in many aspects of education and Hawaiian cultural traditions. She has the support of our community and we value her as someone who values our traditional knowledge and cultural values, someone who listens to the needs of our people, someone not afraid to stand up for what is right, someone who has the poise and grace to respond and proceed with issues that are important, and someone who stands for education and culture to live in harmony for benefit the community at large.

Please approve CHRISTINE KILI NAMAU'U to serve as a member of the Board of Education. She will always have our best interests at heart and work with others to bring what we need to our community. I fully support CHRISTINE KILI NAMAU'U to serve our community in this seat and everything she does.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Sommer "Kehau" Kimokeo

808-281-3262

Mikahala Helm
2493 Vineyard Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

April 11, 2017

Michelle N. Kidani
Senate Education Chair

Kaiali'i Kahele
Senate Education Vice Chair

Aloha kākou,

It is with great pleasure and confidence that I provide this letter of recommendation and support for the nomination of Christine "Kili" Namau'u as member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawai'i (2017-2020). As a University of Hawai'i Maui College (UHMC) Counselor for more than 30 years, I networked with Kili to promote educational success within our community (preschool through adults). She is truly a well-respected, accomplished, and incredibly dedicated educational leader and, given the opportunity, will be a highly valued asset to the Board. Kili has clearly demonstrated her ability to serve on this Board particularly through her experience and skills in building strong educational programs and systems, her knowledge of the Hawaiian Immersion programs from preschool to University, her ability to communicate and relate to others of all backgrounds, and her dedication to providing learning opportunities on our island and throughout Hawai'i.

Kili's resume speaks volumes. As the Kahu/Director of Pūnana Leo O Maui Hawaiian Immersion PreSchool for nearly 25 years, she has been an "outstanding role model" on how to build and sustain an educational program of high standards. We have worked together to connect PreSchoolers, their kumu (teachers), and parents to post secondary opportunities at UHMC. These successes were made possible through Kili's continual openness and follow through to explore new connections and foster the networks of support that include public and private resources and programs.

I am always amazed by Kili's bountiful energy, aloha, and dedication to the youth and families that she has worked with through all these years. Her strengths are bountiful and her commitment to education in general and to the perpetuation of the language of our islands, the Hawaiian language, is solid. I wholeheartedly recommend Kili and ask for your support. Our children and communities will truly be the beneficiaries. Mahalo nui!

Sincerely yours,

Mikahala Helm, M.S.W.
Counselor

cc: Donovan Delacruz, Gil Riviere, Will Espero

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 1:02 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: alohakoikeiki@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pasha Lani-Montira	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha I nominate & support Christine " Kili " Namau'u. Mahalo her for all that she has done for our keiki o ka Aina. Continue to perpetuate our olelo hawaii & to Mālama & aloha our keiki for future generations to come.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 1:11 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: alohaplani@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gary Lani-Montira	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I malama & support, nominate Christine " Kili " Nama'u.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

What a pleasure and privilege it is for me to recommend Christine Kili Namau'u for your most serious consideration, to be approved as Governor Ige's appointment to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. From the beginning of our decades long friendship, Kili and I have shared a deep commitment to the education of our children, with an especially profound agreement about the critical responsibility of educators to give youngsters a broad, strong, and loving foundation for learning in their earliest years. We also share a history of support for the preservation of our State's native language.

Kili's 30-year commitment to preserve, promote and teach the Hawai'an language is a visible living legacy, demonstrated daily in her chosen profession, and communicated widely in her actions --- which do speak more loudly than any words she has spoken about the far reaching value of teaching Hawai'ian, as early as possible to Hawai'i's children. Indeed, language is our most valuable human connector.

The concept of immersion forms the roots of her success. No doubt, learning a second language is more effective and likely to be achieved more quickly when students and teachers speak, read, think together and enjoy each other in the process. When these learning moments are provided in the classroom by the careful, strategic planning of a team of like-minded educators, children benefit greatly and happily from their school experience. Cemented early, this basic foundation is the best beginning of learning success for most humans.

Kili's commitment and dedication need no clearer evidence than is documented in the history of a thriving 30-year school operation, which has earned the respect, admiration, and appreciation of the students, their parents and families, and everyone in the Maui community who cares about our keiki's future success and the preservation of our precious native language. Please approve Kili's appointment

Elizabeth Ayson
eatalna@aol.com

11 April 2017

Letter of Support for Christine "Kili" Namau'u

Senate Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani
Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele

I am most happy to write a letter in support of Christine "Kili" Namau'u to serve as a member of the Board of Education for the State of Hawaii. for the term of July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020.

I feel honored and grateful to have known Kili since 1993 just before our sons were born and while our girls were quite young. She immediately impressed me with her warmth, genuineness, sincerity and intellect. She naturally reaches out to others to make their lives better, and is the most extraordinary resourceful person I know. That is not an exaggeration!

Over our 24 years of friendship, I have watched Kili make a positive difference in many realms of our community life, here on Maui, and in our larger community, proactively supporting true Hawaiian values, education, rights for all people, honesty, safe environment and immersion education among others. Kili knows how to listen and respond with great care and consideration. She is smart, caring and humble, always working to learn more and help those around her.

We have worked together for about 6 years on the SCC (School Community Council) of King Kekaulike High School, continually seeking to improve the school and resources. I believe she would be a tremendous asset to the Board of Education.

As a graphic designer in the Maui community for the past 25 years, a colleague and friend of Kili, I recommend her without any hesitation to this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joan Selix Berman".

joan selix berman

cc: Committee Members:
Donovan DelaCruz, Gil Riviere
Will Espero

T 808.280.1669
F 808.442.0050

1135 Makawao Avenue
Suite 268
Makawao, Maui

jsbmaui@gmail.com

Apelila 11, 2017

Attn: Senate Education Chair Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Kaiali`i Kahele, and committee members Donovan Delacruz, Gil Riviere, Will Espero.

Aloha,

My name is Malia. I have a daughter, age 4, who attends Pūnanaleo o Maui. Christine Namau`u, known to us as Kahu Kili, has been such an influential part of my family's life. She is so passionate about the school and the students. Kahu Kili is truly an inspiration in the Hawaiian community. Without all of her hard work, perseverance and commitment, there really would be no Hawaiian language pre-school. She encourages all the parents to be a part of our kids' education, take pride in the school and our culture. It's the parent involvement and family like environment that really sets this school apart. Pūnanaleo isn't just a school where the kids speak Hawaiian, it is a school where we ALL are immersed in Hawaiian culture and values. We all work together and work hard to restore something that was almost lost forever, our language, our culture. Kahu Kili's vision is the vision of our ancestors being perpetuated through the children and `ohana. She constantly reminds us of that, and her passion for our children's education is contagious. She is a powerful role model for the teachers who follow her and a respectable member of the education community. I know she would make a huge impact as a member of the Board of Education here in Hawai'i. Mahalo nui.

Sincerely,

Malian Benz-Marrs

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 2:22 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: Lon Paresa
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lon Paresa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support Kili Namau'u for a seat on the Board of Education

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

April 11, 2017

Senate Education Committee

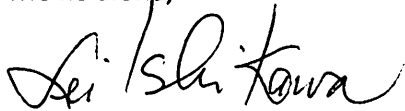
RE: Chritine Kili Namau'u
Nomination as a member of Board of Education
Term: July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020

Aloha Senate Education Committee,

With great honor, I highly recommend Christine "Kili" Namau'u as a member of the Board of Education. Namau'u has always been a strong advocate for education for the children and adults of Hawai'i for as long as I have known her. I have known her for 25 years as a co-worker, a parent, community member, and most important as a advocate for education. Namau'u is currently the director of Punana Leo O Maui, a Hawaiian Immersion preschool. As a director she has created generations of Hawaiian speaking practitioners. In fact, my children have gone to Punana Leo O Maui, gone to Pā'ia, then to Kālama, and then to King Kekaulike on Maui. Today, my grandchildren are in immersion programs and my daughter is now a head teacher in Punana Leo O Lahaina, another daughter is the President of Na Leo Kako'o (Kula Kaiapuni). I am truley grateful for Ms. Namau'u in nurturing the families as they grow and become leaders in our community.

Finally, Ms Namau'u is the hardest worker I have ever met. She not only leads her community, she works with them. She is always the first to start and the last till the job is done. Christine Kili Namau'u is the right choice for this board, her passion and belief in the education system will grow in strength with her on your board.

Me ke aloha,



Lei Ishikawa
Owner/Educational Coordinator Paeloko

GM 775

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 2:45pm, State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Committee on Education

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Re: STRONG SUPPORT for GM775, Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTINE NAMAU'U, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

E Kenekoa Kidani, Kenekoa Kahele a me nā lālā o nā kōmike ho'ona'auao,
Aloha 'oukou;

My name is Keiki Kawai'ae'a and I am the Director of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College at UH Hilo. It is a pleasure to support Governor Ige's choice of Ms. Christine Kili Nāmau'u to the Board of Education. I personally have known her from my early days as an immersion teacher on Maui. She was then and continues to be a strong advocate for education.

In endorsing her appointment, I also convey the overall support of our College of Hawaiian Language. Ms. Nāmau'u has worked with a number of our faculty and outreach offices to bring resources to not only her own community but to the entire state.

We wholeheartedly support her nomination.

Mahalo nui.



Director, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:14 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: randyawo@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
momi awo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support for this highly qualified, accomplished and distinguished educator and community leader.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:10 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: randyawo@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for GM775 on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM

GM775

Submitted on: 4/11/2017

Testimony for EDU on Apr 12, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
randy awo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Strong support for this nominee

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov