



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

January 27, 2017

TO: Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: SB 711 – Relating to Early Learning
Hearing Date: January 30, 2017
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Location: Conference Room 229

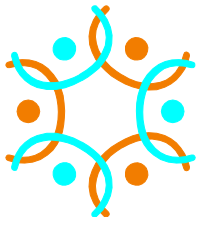
Purpose of Bill: Appropriate funds for the executive office on early learning to enter into contracts with third party providers for family child interaction learning programs.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) **supports** SB 711 with recommendations for amendments.

Family is the single most important influence in a child's life. Parents and families have the most direct and lasting impact on children's learning and development of social competence. Children thrive when parents actively promote their positive growth and development. Families are a child's first and lifelong partner in education and early childhood providers need to build the kind of relationships that engage families as active partners early in their child's education. Family Child Interaction Learning organizations have been successful in working with children and families which have resulted in positive social, emotional and educational outcomes.

EOEL respectfully requests that the language in SB 711, Section 1 be revised to: "The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the Executive Office on Early Learning to enter into contracts with third party providers for Family Child Interaction Learning organizations to develop and implement programs **which support families to take an active role in the social, emotional and cognitive development of their young children, as a part of a mixed-delivery early childhood system.**"

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



Hawaii
Children's Action Network
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

January 29, 2017

To: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Committee on Education

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director
Hawaii Children's Action Network

Re: **SB 711 – Relating to Education**
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 229, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM

On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), we are writing to support SB 711 – Relating to Education

HCAN is committed to building a unified voice advocating for Hawaii's children by improving their safety, health, and education. Last fall, HCAN convened input in person and online from more than 50 organizations and individuals that came forward to support or express interest for a number of issues affecting children and families in our state that resulted in the compilation of 2017 Hawai'i Children's Policy Agenda, which can be accessed at <http://www.hawaii-can.org/2017policyagenda>.

By providing the Executive Office on Early Learning funding and the opportunity to establish contracts with outside vendors for programs, new partnerships and opportunities will be available for our community. There are numerous, high quality programs across our state that provide culturally-relevant, multi-generational, parenting skills and child development programs for low-income, at-risk families. Currently there is not an avenue for these programs to be supported by the state, which dramatically limits the number of families they can serve.

For these reasons, HCAN respectfully requests that the committee pass this bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 1:32 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: nredfeather@kohalacenter.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB711 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM

SB711

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Redfeather	Ka Ohana O Na Pua	Support	No

Comments: From 1990-1999 we partnered with the State of Hawaii to provide pre-school services to all of Kona's keiki. We were very successful and everything ran easily. Create this opportunity again, for our keiki's headstart and for our working families. Mahalo!

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

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

There is a growing need to support families, especially families that live in rural and at-risk communities.

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

FCIL programs (Keiki Steps, Tūtū and Me and the Ka Pa'alana Homeless Family Education Program) that services over 1,000 parents and children ages 0-5. These FCIL programs are highly important in building community.

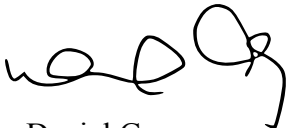
These programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is a tremendous long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Goya', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Goya

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have personally seen and experienced the transformative impact of FCIL programs. Families in my program come from backgrounds of homelessness, abuse, and poverty. They entered disengaged from their role as parent, but through support, positive examples, teaching, and practice have transformed into parents who embrace their powerful role as primary influencer of their child. I've seen the lights go on in parent's eyes as they see how their nurturing relationship with their child, and intentional interactions with them can have amazing results, and prepare them for a confident and successful education and life. The power of the love between parent and child is a catalyst for generational change, and moves parents to go out of their comfort zone, and learn how to understand and support their children. The children thrive in the love and informed support of their parents, and this gives them the nurturing environment they need to succeed in school. Please support Senate Bill 711 and FCIL programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo,



Terry Nakamura
2044 Lee Place
Honolulu, HI 96817
808-389-3438

Janice Duarosan
94-1175 Keahua Loop
Waiaphu, HI 96797

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

Re: Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

I am in support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs. Without funding many children will enter the system without proper preparation.

I beg you to support SB 711.

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

Being a part of the FCIL program has benefited so many families served. FCIL programs create meaningful and long-lasting experiences for families by equipping them with job preparedness, parenting tools, school success, and family engagement while simultaneously providing a safe, nurturing, and loving environment.

Continuous support of FCIL programs will mean the continuation of services to families and children who greatly need these tools build and create a stable future.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Napuaala Correa', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Napuaala Correa
87-1206 A Farrington Hwy.
Waianae, HI 96792

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

These early childhood programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is a long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation. There is proof that these programs enforce an overall better life for individuals who attend. These individuals are more likely to graduate from high school, become home owners, get married, and simply become productive citizens within their community.

These programs equipped both parents and families as a whole with the tools needed to be their child's first educators. Parent and child interaction in the educational setting promotes a solid foundation for the child's educational career. These programs are detrimental to the success of not only our children, but for the future.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kahele', written in a cursive style.

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

With my working experience with this program, I have seen the families who participate not only enjoy the family learning program but they can actually see their child learn and develop and have seen their child use it in their daily life. Parents also benefit because they get hands on experience on what their child is learning, and know how to be there and support them when in need. Having programs like these for families is important because it gives the educators and the parents the support they need to help the child grow. I also believe funding for these programs will provide a needed service for all families, especially those interested in early learning and wanting their child to learn at an early age.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,



Maria Cueva

Dayna Begonia
87-160 Mamoalii Place
Waianae, HI 96792
808-222-7657

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

Re: Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

I am in support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs. Without funding many children will enter the system without proper preparation.

I beg you to support SB 711.


Donna R. Kranz
91-1312 Keoneula Blvd. #202
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
808-271-5317

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

Re: Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

I am in support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs. Early learning programs support and prepare our children to make the transition to Kindergarten. Without funding our children are at a great disadvantage.

I beg you to support SB 711.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna R. Kranz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end.

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I strongly support the funding of family child interaction learning programs. My family has personally experienced the benefits of a FCIL program. Participating in a FCIL program has taught us the importance of being our daughters first and foremost teacher. We also learned how to be active in her education process and prepare her for the transition to other education programs. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,



Armond Kahawai

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
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Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have had the privilege of experiencing the benefits of FCIL programs. By being a part of a FCIL program myself, I have witnessed many parents become more involved in their children's life. These programs also provide families with tremendous support and prepare our children to make the transition into the formal learning process. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jazmine Kamaka". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jazmine Kamaka
94-549 Makohilani St. Apt #1044
Mililani, HI 96789

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
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Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs. I have personally experienced the powerful benefits of FCIL programs for the families that I serve.

In our program, I have witnessed families grow tremendously together through the activities and services that we provide. Parents have grown stronger and have a lot more confidence in supporting their children's education. Some of our parents have learned how to better nurture their children. They are constantly learning how to prepare their children for success; and at the same time, they are learning how to be a better parent and Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sadie Sellers", with a long, sweeping underline.

Sadie Sellers

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

Through working in a FCIL program, I have seen positive changes occur between caregiver and keiki. I have seen caregivers enter with a fresh outlook and as they continued with the program, they grew with their child by interacting and engaging with them. As an assessment specialist, I've got the opportunity to assess and assist keiki in areas that could use improvement. The beauty of our FCIL program is building relationships with the caregivers and keiki so that I can effectively assess a child and speak honestly to the caregiver about their child's progress. With that open relationship, I have seen caregiver and keiki grow together equipping their keiki for their future educational development. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,



Jesse Pahukula

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

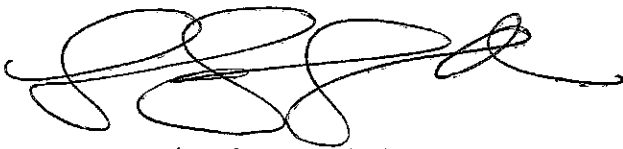
Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

I work for a FCIL program and both of my children also attend the program as well. As a participant of the program, I can see the benefits of attending the program with my child. Not only do I learn at the same time as my child, I also learn how to continue the learning after we leave for the day. The parents who attend the program together also become closer as we are all a part of something we know will benefit all of us in the long run. The skills sets these types of programs teach last a lifetime. I have seen the transformation this type of program has been able to make for the entire family unit. Parents not only get to learn alongside their child, they learn how their child is learning. They learn about the child's development. They learn the impacts of positive and negative discipline. One parent told me he was so thankful for the program because it "taught him how to raise his daughter." She is his first child and he was so thankful that he had the opportunity to go to the program with his daughter and not only learn with her but learn about her.

Family child interaction learning programs teach parents and caregivers the responsibility they have as teachers of their children. Children absorb everything they are exposed to. If there is an opportunity to enhance the experiences that child is being exposed to, they why not do so? These programs are imperative to the success of communities. The benefits these programs have for families are endless.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'June Pualani Tandal Aquino', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

June Pualani Tandal Aquino

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

Aloha , I am submitting this testimony to express my support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

Family child interaction learning program works closely with parents. FCILP equips parents with

Research has demonstrated statistically and clinically significant improvements in child.

Funding these program will help educate families to be the best educator for their child. Our children needs program .

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dolly Naele". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Committee on Education

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees

I have personally experienced the benefits of FCIL while working with Ka Pa'alana. My experience with our program is seeing all these different families coming in and watching their kids grow and seeing them develop well. These programs we provide will help support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into formal learning process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Lyndsey

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lyndsey".

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45PM, Conf. Room 229

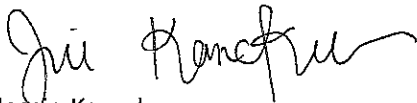
Support letter for bill SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am writing in support of family child interaction learning programs. I work with a great program that I have come to witness that does great work for families. I have witnessed the growth of parents that started with nothing come out to have a job and a steady living situation for their families. None would make it possible without the help and guidance from family child interaction learning programs. Not only do they help better equip our keiki to transition into the formal learning process but equip the parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child. It's amazing to see how many families have come out of these programs with nothing but greatness happen in their lives. I've seen families coming from nothing, straight from the beach or shelters with nothing. Then after being in the program I have experienced some getting a roof over their heads, getting their GED's, registering their child for kindergarten and parents getting a permeant job. I hope this funding continues for our families that use these programs. But I hope for more families to find these programs and proper preparation in raising their child and make the parent stable for their family. Funding or these programs will continue make a difference with our families that we work with. Also me as a staff member from these programs, I felt myself change as a person knowing that my help has made a difference in others' lives that I service.

Please support SB 711.

Thank you for your time.

Mahalo.



Jessie Kamakura
94-870 Lumiauau St. S206
Waipahu Hi, 96797

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

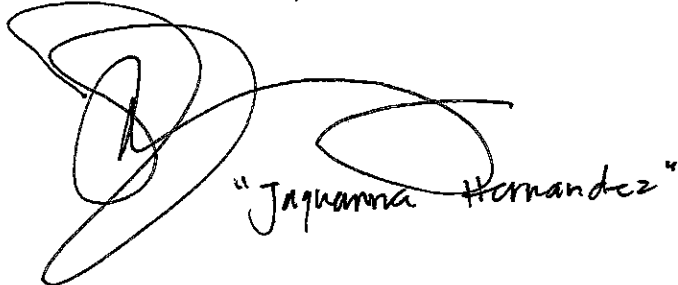
Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

FCIL programs have impacted my life on so many levels. Being a homeless family and having siblings of young age I learned how important FCIL programs were. They have helped me encourage my siblings and immediate family understand the importance for their young children. They helped me on going back to school to become an Early Childhood Educator not just for myself for my children but for the future leader of tomorrow.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,



"Jaquanna Hernandez"

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU) and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday, January 30, 2017
2:45 p.m.
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I'm writing in support of SB 711.

FCIL programs have become increasingly important. There are a lot of new research supporting parental involvement and early education. The research can be shared with families through these FCIL programs.

Certain FCIL programs provide education and services to homeless families who might not be able to afford education or services from formal programs. These families are in great need of assistance, and they often times are unable to make progress through traditional means. FCIL programs such as this would allow them to learn the importance of education for themselves and their children while breaking the cycle of poverty their children's and grandchildren's generations face.

FCIL programs focus on the whole family who learn together while spending quality time with each other. Stronger bonds are formed and strengthened. Values of education and family become more clear. Learning becomes enjoyable at a young age. The value of education carries on with the child as the child grows into adulthood.

I strongly believe in the importance of FCIL programs. Building strong foundations are essential for future success. Your continued support would help ensure that our families receive proper education and services.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo,



Stacey Kauka

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
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Members of the Committee: Senators

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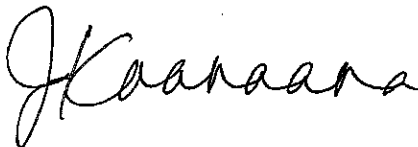
Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have been working with Partners in Development Foundation for a little more than 3 years and during this time, I have helped the families become self-reliant and self-supported for themselves to move their family unit forward through assessments and home visiting. This has been accomplished through the Parent Education classes, the Home Visiting services, as well as the Family Education services that are available through this program. These services have empowered the families to become lifelong learners and realize they are their child's first teacher.

Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Kaanaana". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have seen many families benefit from programs that teach the importance of early education for our keiki. Funding programs that help parents to understand the importance of education, interacting, and building positive relationships with their child/children will help break the poverty cycle in Hawai'i. It has been proven in many studies that early education will give our children a higher chance of success in life. It is vital for our state to step up and provide for our keiki in order for them to have a chance to live a prosperous life on their homelands with an ever-increasing cost of living rather than living on the beaches or moving to the mainland to survive. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Mahalo Nui Loa,



Jaclyn Canady
1333 Moku Pl #K
Honolulu, HI 96822

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

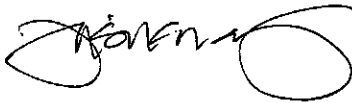
I would like to share a personal story that highlights the positive impact that FCILs have had on my family. When my son, Aidan, was born, I was overcome with a sense of inadequacy as a parent because I didn't know how to properly raise my son. Yes, we read books on child development, and attended classes on parenting. But even with those resources (which costs money), my wife and I had a tough time understanding the stages of development and how best to support my son. I had head knowledge about the subject but did not feel proficient because there was no way for me to practice and receive feedback or support. It wasn't until I started working for a FCIL program in 2007 that I was able to better understand and support my child's development. Through ongoing professional development and support from program staff, I was able to not only learn the science behind child development but afforded opportunities to put knowledge into practice. I felt supported. I am confident that without my involvement in FCILs and learning directly from the program, I would not have had the support I needed during my son's critical early years. Today, he's in fourth grade and performing far better than many of his peers.

I was fortunate that I had the financial and professional resources but I can't imagine how families living in poverty are able to take advantage of the benefits of such resources. Considering that 95 percent of a child's brain is formed by age 5, it's even more critical that parents are provided support early. But that's exactly where FCILs fill the void. The programs are, in most cases, free or provided at very low cost to families. And the programming, in philosophy and design, focuses specifically on equipping parents with the skills necessary to support their children's development from prenatal to age 5 and beyond. There is a growing body of research that highlights the lifelong benefits of parent involvement in their children's learning, and those benefits don't just stop at school readiness; research shows long-lasting benefits in their children's attainment in post-secondary education and workplace success.

I realize that there are many worthy initiatives vying for funding from the state. But if education is going to be a priority, we need to begin not only including parents in their children's education and development but embracing their potential for lifelong impact by equipping them to be their child's first and most important teacher. Otherwise, we can continue to state empty rhetoric about the important of education for the future of our state and end up not moving us any closer to that vision.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jin Chang', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Jin Chang

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have personal experience with FCIL programs both as an educator and as a parent. Family Child Interactive Learning programs have been key in my children's education, it has helped them get an early start on their on the road to success. As a teacher in an FCIL program I see how beneficial it is for our keiki and their families. I have friends who are educators that have taken their own children to FCIL programs and they have nothing but positive things to say about it. I've personally witnessed keiki that have a hard time interacting socially blossom into friendly, caring and conscientious little people. I have worked with children that have delayed speech and through interaction with program staff and their peers have become quite the conversationalists. Without FCIL programs our keiki are not given the opportunity to maximize their full potential. Children flourish and grow when they are given the opportunity, please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Naomi Patterson



84-104 Jade St.

Wai'anae HI 96792

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have personally experienced the powerful benefits of FCIL programs through the work that I do with Partners in Development. During the 3 years that I have worked with my FCIL program, I have seen children learn and grow tremendously as they are equipped with the necessary skills for a lifetime educational success. I have also witnessed parent education which empowers them to be an even greater support to their children's growth and education.

Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

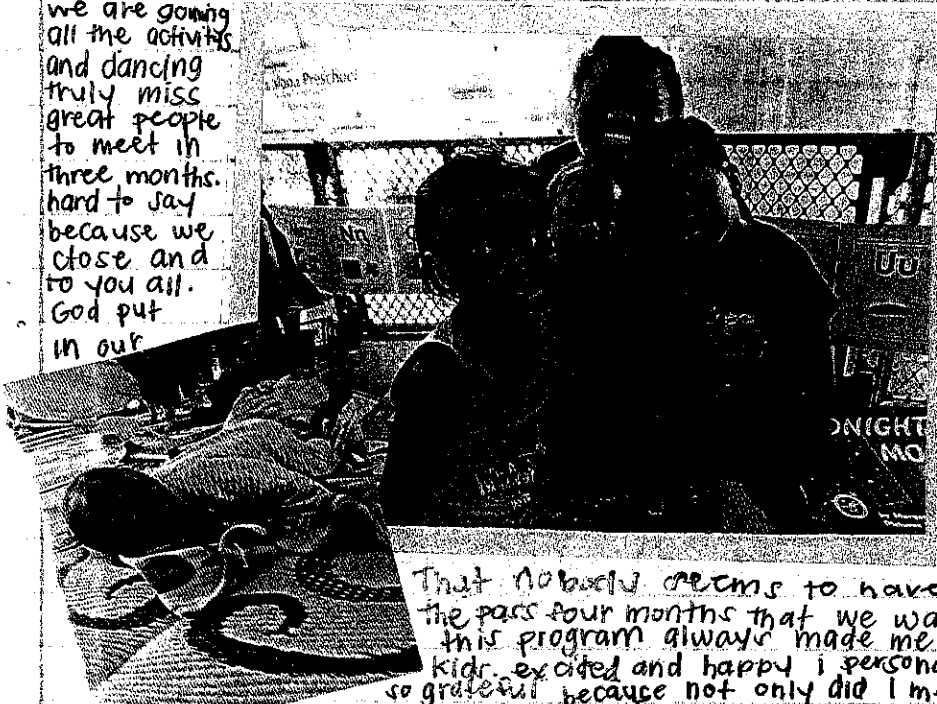


Christine L Rawls

Dear Kapilanga Ohana

I'm just writing this to let you guys know how much I appreciate your services. I am beyond thankful that God has placed such kind hearted people into our lives, we cant thank him enough because without him we wouldn't have met you all. Thank you for giving the kids and myself the opportunity to grow and learn from this program. Thank you so much for your generosity and love you have poured onto us. We have grown to become more patient and loving towards each other. I learned that the only way everything will work out is we have patience and love. You guys have been so understanding with our needs and I thank you guys for that. I am also thankful that you guys put up with these naughty children and my bad mouth :D

we are going
all the activities
and dancing
truly miss
great people
to meet in
three months.
hard to say
because we
close and
to you all.
God put
in our



to miss
the singing
we will
all the
we got
the pass
its so
goodbye
got so
attached
but I know
you all
lives for
a reason.
and that
reason is
the endless
love and
generosity
you all have

That actually seems to have ~~nothing~~
the pass four months that we was with
this program always made me and the
kids excited and happy I personally am
so grateful because not only did I meet new
people but I also gained awesome friends. I learned
so much from parenting class that it aint even cool.
lol kidding you guys gave us so many opportunities to move
on and succeed with out giving up. Im going to miss each
and everyone of you. Its so sad that well be leaving but its
for the best. once again thank you all from the bottom of
our hearts.

We love you all ❤️

We will miss you all :C

Santari Tatasi

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

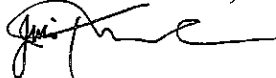
Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have observed the positive effects of Family Child Interactive Learning Programs having worked as an Assessment Specialist for the Partners In Development Foundation; Ka Pa'alana Program. One of the core components of this program is PACT time which provides a space for parents to interact with, teach, and help their child learn in a comfortable, safe learning environment with the support of Program staff. It provides a space for the child to explore and learn in a hands-on environment and encourages a joy of learning. Over time, as parents become more accustomed to interacting with their child in a learning environment, parents gain skills that they can also use to help their child at home. Parents development more confidence, and a realization that they can play a positive part in their child's education and development. They become empowered. This is huge. The philosophy of FCIL programs to empower parents and children hold important implications for the future. When the child enters Kindergarten, he/she is well prepared, knows what to expect and is ready to learn. Of equal importance, the parents are more prepared, know what to expect, and have a greater confidence in their own abilities to support their child's education. Family Child Interactive Learning Programs are a win-win for keiki, parents, and our communities, because these programs build stronger families, and are a foundation on which a lifelong joy of learning begins.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,



Julie Kawasaki
91-1058 Kekuilani Lp, #1801
Kapolei, HI 96707

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I would love to express my support for the funding of family and child interaction learning programs.

These programs have proven to promote the well-being of children, their parents, and the family unit. Through my involvement in a Family-Child Interaction Learning program, I have seen parents get more encouraged and equipped to support, engage, and interact with their children. And through that, I have also seen children grow and become excited to learn. Setting up a secure foundation for our keiki is beyond valuable and important. FCIL promotes and greatly helps achieve this.

Through FCIL programs, parents, children, families, and communities benefit. In many ways, these programs promote values that are integral in our State's cultural values of pono, aloha, and 'ohana.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony in support of this bill.

Please support Senate Bill 711.

Mahalo,


Donna Emily Viloria

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

These programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is a tremendous long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo

Amanda Sue Asuncion-Mahuka

*Amanda-Sue Asuncion-Mahuka
84-949 A. Hana St.
Waianae, HI. 96792*

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

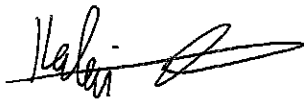
Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

Early childhood education is vital for our keiki's success and I am eager to share that I have seen many families who have benefited greatly by being a part of a Family and Child Interactive Learning experience. It is also important for parents to get involved in their children's education and it's even better if they are involved right at the start of the child's education. There is a Hawaiian saying "O ke kahua mamua, mahope ke kūkulu." Which roughly translates to "First the foundation, then the building." It stresses the importance of laying down strong foundations in order to grow. FCIL programs facilitate this. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo Nui Loa,



Ahren "Kalai" Stern
91-1245 Franklin D. Roosevelt Ave. Apt#318
Kapolei, HI 96707

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha! When I heard about this bill I was thrilled at the thought of further funding for family child interaction learning programs, in which I am a very strong supporter of.

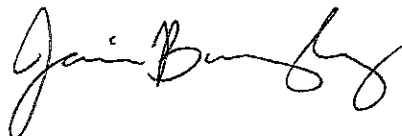
I myself am a recipient of worker who have experienced early education with a program that has very little funding, and one that has decent funding. I have worked at a K4 at a very small private school and I saw a lot of struggles in which the teacher of that class lacked an adequate number of staff to help, re-used, refurbished, and second hand materials and just an overall lower rate education experience. The main reason why it still did well was because the teacher herself was just that amazing.

But now after working for Partners in Development – Ka Pa'alana program I see just how much a difference it makes for first of all parents and caregivers to be present at school and the heart-warming interaction between them, and also the tremendous things our program is capable of accomplishing with proper funding.

I have also personally seen the incredible success that our keiki has for kindergarten because of a FCIL system.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,
Jamie Bumanglag



Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiālī'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Committee on Education

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

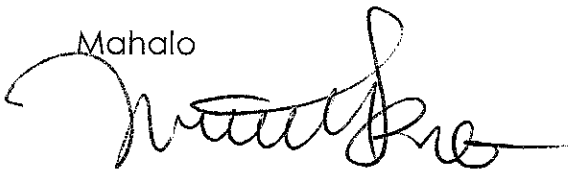
The Family Child Interactive Learning programs has been extremely effective with my keiki. I've gained a better understanding about the importance of introducing literacy to my keiki from an early age. Our keiki and families can benefit from FCIL programs. I strongly believe it's essential for my keiki and many other keiki to be involved in programs that will support them in all aspects. Starting these programs at an early age will benefit them socially and cognitively.

Since being a part of FCIL programs I've noticed a significant difference in my home. I am more intentional with my interactions with my keiki. I have used the tools given to me to help me in areas I fall short. I have been blessed to share my knowledge with my family through FCIL programs.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marisa How-Rosete', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Marisa How-Rosete

Address:

860 Halekauwila St. Apt. 601
Honolulu, HI. 96813

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM,

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

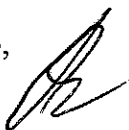
These programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is a tremendous long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,



Alsieann Wilson

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I feel that Family Child Interactive Learning programs are crucial, effective and needed in our communities. As times are changing with different cultural values and technology use on the rise, these FCIL programs provide experiences and foundational excellent in the field of early childhood education. They support families engage with early learning and build upon relationships for a healthy community.

About 18 years ago, when I had my daughter at an early age, I was not aware of programs available to me, as these programs may have been limited. I feel that my daughter could have benefit from these types of organizations, as I am currently working for one. As I assist families daily, I see the impact of their relationships building within the family unit and how parents are more engaged in their child's learning.

I have personally experienced the powerful benefits of FCIL programs. Through participation in my FCIL program I have become a more involved community helper and parent. I have learned how to nurture my children, support their education, and prepare them to succeed in school. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,



Myra Shindo
PO BOX 884
Aiea, HI 96701

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have been a part of early childhood and parent education for almost 5yrs and I have seen our families from when they started with our program and to the present day and how amazing what being a part of early education can do for not just for the child but also for the parents. Early childhood and Parent education together builds a bond that a child and a parent will never forget because it brings a trust and communication between the child and parent closer and builds the children confidence in their parents and in themselves to succeed in everything they do! As a parent myself I believe in early childhood and parent education, we have a responsibility to our children to help them reach their goals in life! They are the future of our generation!

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,



Ana Oishi
91-614 Makalea St.
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

As an Assessment Specialist for an FCIL program, I have personally seen the program improve lives and make children more prepared and equipped for the future. Any one of the parents that I work with say that FCIL programs have been responsible in their child's improved academic performance and in helping them to become the parent and teacher to their child that their child needs. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Daniel Kirnbauer



94-305 Kamalei St.

Mililani, HI

96789

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY
LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

As an employee of an FCIL program, I have seen the profound impacts it has had on Hawai'i's families.

A parent's ability to enhance early learning in their child is undeniably crucial to that child's success in school and in FCIL programs such as the one I work at, those skills are holistically invested into. I have seen first-hand the incredible effects of this work, in strengthening Hawai'i's families and producing kindergarten-ready children.

So many families have deeply benefited from their involvement in FCIL programs and still so many are in need of these services.

I humbly ask you to support Senate Bill 711.

Mahalo



Tiana Morikawa
95-108 Hi'ikua Place
Mililani, HI 96789

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

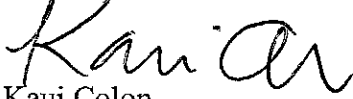
These programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is a tremendous long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,



Kai Colon

89-890 Lahi Kiola Pl.

Waianae, HI 90792

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

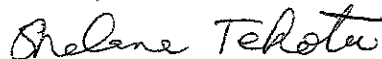
These programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is substantial long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation. Some benefits also include: fewer children being placed in special education and remedial classes, have better self-esteem, are more self-disciplined, and show higher aspirations and motivation toward school.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child and also gives parents more confidence in their parenting and decision-making skills.

School programs that encourage and involve parents usually do better and have higher quality programs than programs that do not involve parents. Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,



Shalane Tehotu
92-1356 Panana St.
Kapolei, HI 96707

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

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

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Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo,



Lachelle Lopes

91-1654 Paluka St #203
Ewa Beach, HI 96704

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

In the time that I have been working at an FCIL program, I have seen tremendous growth in the lives of our children and their families. Our program equips caregivers with the tools necessary to not only be actively involved in their children's education but to actually be their children's first educator. When talking with a parent of one of the children who attends the program, she told me that she loves our program because she doesn't have the resources at home to do these educational activities with her daughter. I have seen children from our program who weren't able to speak and would always hide behind their caregivers, come running to me yelling "Good morning, Aunty!" and tell me long stories about their days. I have seen children who would kick and scream when they had to share anything with another child now be able to say "Please" and "Thank you." I have seen parents who would just leave their child alone when they first started coming to our program, now reading books to them and asking them open-ended questions while they interact with their child in each activity. I cannot think of anything more important for a child to have than an education and for their family to be actively involved in their life. FCIL programs provide both of those things. Please support the families who benefit from FCIL programs by supporting Senate Bill 711.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,
Rachel Reichard
94-775 Meheula Pkwt #29c
Mililani HI 96789

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
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SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

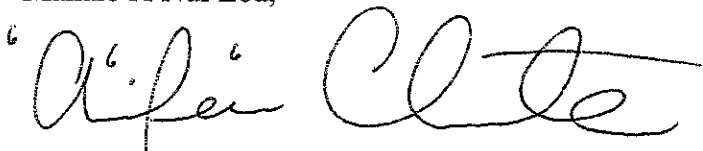
Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

As an Early Childhood Educator I have seen first-hand the positive effects a FCIL program has towards families and children. I have experienced families growing closer as a unit and moving forward out of challenging times. FCIL programs have proven to equip and support parents with the tools they need to become their child's first and most important teachers. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,


'Ano'ile'a Clemente

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Committee on Education

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45PM, Cong. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to convey my support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

These programs provide many families with an immense support and to produce our children to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is an immense long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational portion.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and utmost educator. It is a variety delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our children who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please I ask of you to support SB 711.

Mahalo



Joy Smith
86-224 Kawili Street
Waianae, HI, 96792

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have been working in a family child learning (FCL) program for almost 10 years and have seen the impact it has on children, parents and their community.

Providing enjoyable quality early learning experiences will instill a lifelong positive outlook on education which will motivate them to complete high school and maybe even seek higher education in college.

With FCL programs, the parents are also learning how to have meaningful interactions with their child that incorporate early learning and quality bonding time. What stands out about FCL programs is through the parent education component, learning will not just stop at the FCL program, but can continue on at home.

Strong communities are made up of healthy families and bonds between these families. FCL programs will provide a safe environment for families to come together and form relationships with each other which can promote community unity.

As you can see, it is vital for our state to support FCL programs to ensure a thriving community that can start with educating our community's children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,
Michelle Tom

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 3:49 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB711 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM

SB711

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Barry	Individual	Comments Only	Yes

Comments: Absolutely!

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

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 2:27 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: alliekai@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB711 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM

SB711

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allie Kai-Sumiki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My daughter & I love attending Ka Pa'Alana. We love interacting with the kumu & other keiki. As a mom it's really encouraging to have such a resource available to us. The environment that is created is welcoming. Ka paalana makes learning fun & it allows me to be able to watch my daughter grow from a different perspective.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 1:55 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: debbie.kenui@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB711 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM*

SB711

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Jean B Kenui	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 1:49 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: debraanncosta26@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB711 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM

SB711

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Debra Costa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Ka Paalana program has helped my grandson's develop in hi speech and social skills in interaction with his culture as well has having family involvement. This program not only provides the children with knowledge in the classroom but also with field trips and outside hands on activities. We like how the location is so convenient and close to our home. We are very pleased with the staff and feel welcomed just like family in the classroom.

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The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

FCIL programs are a crucial part of the community for many reasons. Early child education is the starting point in building successful adults and community members. FCIL programs incorporate family bonding and learning as a whole. It is pertinent in a young child's life to be educated, feel loved, and have a strong family support system, FCIL programs help to develop this for child and parent. FCIL promotes parent interaction and involvement.

Studies show that by the age of 5, 95 percent of a child's brain is formed and it is critical for children's school success to have involvement from parents. FCIL programs give families the opportunity to learn skills to support their child's learning that might not otherwise be afforded to them. Working one on one with these families as part of the team at the Ka Pa'alana Program in Keaukaha, I have been blessed with the opportunity to observe at-risk families grow and learn together. The families that we work with greatly benefit from our program. Funding to continue to help and support these families and continue the great work of FCIL programs.

PLEASE SUPPORT SENATE BILL 711

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,
Kaulana Helenihi

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

Testimony for Public Hearing - Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha;

I am submitting my testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of Family and Child Interaction Learning (FCIL) programs.

I know FCIL programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into school systems. Every year FCIL programs in Hawaii serve 8,000 children ages 0-3, and their parents. FCIL programs have the largest outreach for early education for any setting in the islands. Research has shown a tremendous long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation.

Family and Child Interaction Learning programs work closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. These programs also emphasize intensive family engagement and two-gen involvement, both of which are now best practices for early childhood.

It is a mixed-delivery system that directly compliments the surging efforts in Hawai'i education. FCIL programs equip parents to be well informed including how to be an advocate and collaborator for their child's success in school and life.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

I have been involved directly with FCIL programs for 16 years, and was a parent participant starting in 1986 and currently sit as the Family and Child Interaction Learning programs Representative.

On behalf of thousands of parents and their young children, **please support SB 711.**

Mahalo nui!

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017

2:45 pm

Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

As a mom of two, I've experienced the importance of early learning. From the early ages of 3 and 4, my children were blessed and fortunate to have had the opportunity to go through a program at NO cost. The program helped them exceed in the process of learning as well as the continuation of their education up until this day. The setting, the tools, the teachers, the aides, and EACH ohana member that participate are vital pieces to make a child grow into bright and inquisitive humans. For this reason, I'm humbled and grateful to share that my children aren't struggling with their education. They feel prepared and confident in what they do in school and in life.

Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui,

Loralai

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 11:18 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Cc: teonsimms@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB711 on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM*

SB711

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Jan 30, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teon Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017

2:45 pm

Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I am writing in acknowledgement and support of SB 711. I have personally experienced the powerful benefits of FCIL programs. As a parent, I understand and see how important parent involvement is to a child's school success. I have also learned how to support their education, and prepare them to succeed in school. Through FCIL programs, parents are able to approach their child's learning in a more intentional, positive and creative way. These programs equip parents with the skills to support their child's learning. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Tioni Freeman

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

My name is Annie Mila and I am writing in acknowledgement of SB 711. I am for SB711 and fully support all that it entails. I have personally experienced the powerful benefits of FCIL within our Ka Pa`alana program. Although I have recently just become an educator of this program a year ago, I have witnessed firsthand how FCIL and our P.A.C.T. (Parent and Child Together) program prepares children and enhances their learning capabilities.

Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Annie K. N. Mila

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have personally experienced the incredible benefits of FCIL programs. I was a participant of programs like these that prepared me for an admissions test into a private school. Without that early childhood learning experience, I may not have been prepared for entering Kindergarten which has set my path in furthering my education to a collegiate level.

As a parent I have benefited from my son's participation in a FCIL program. I have learned to become an involved parent by nurturing my son and supporting his education. Through programs like this, I am more equipped to support my son's learning and development which will prepare him to be successful in school. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Angel Nakoa Tuifagu

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

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Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
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Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

My name is Sherise Kana'e-Kane and I am in support of SB 711. I have personally experienced the powerful benefits of FCIL programs within our Ka Pa`alana Program located at Richardson's Ocean Center in Keaukaha. Our program is an extension of the Ka Pa`alana Homeless Family Educational Program on the Wai`anae Coast and Kaka`ako on Oahu. Our families in Keaukaha and Kings Landing area has shown progress in parent interaction in many areas such as S.T.E.A.M. language, creating boundaries and routines. Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Research shows that 95 percent of a child's brain is formed by age 5 and parent involvement is critical to children's school success. Our program and other Family Child Interaction Learning Programs equip parents and caregivers with the skills to support their children's learning and success when entering formal education. Often times vulnerable families do not have access to quality children education or family strengthening programs due to cost, FCIL's fill this void by providing these services at no cost to the participants.

Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Sherise Kana'e-Kāne

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017
2:45 pm
Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I am writing in acknowledgement and support of SB711. I understand the impact FCIL has on a child and also encourage it. As not only a parent, but an educator I have witnessed the benefits family interaction has and how it helps support children's overall development. Often times families are not equipped with the knowledge of early learning experiences, however with programs that embrace FCIL they are better able to learn and explore with their children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Marchele Rapoza

The Senate Joint Committees Education (EDU), and Ways and Means (WAM)

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee: Senators

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SB 711, RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING

Hearing: Monday / January 30, 2017

2:45 pm

Conference Room 229, Hawai'i State Capitol

Aloha Senators Kidani and Tokuda and members of these committees,

I have worked in the field of social work for over fifteen years and I have witnessed the benefits and positive-measurable outcomes of FCIL programs. As an assessment specialist and case manager for homeless and at risk youth and families, I have first-hand data that support the effectiveness of parents becoming more aware and involved in their child's daily life of learning while increasing a healthier parent-child relationship. Through FCIL programs, parents have become more aware of their child's needs by learning about what child appropriate milestones are, identifying areas of need and how to approach their child's learning in a more intentional, positive and creative way. It was through programs such as these that help create a strong foundation of learning that educates and prepares our keiki to succeed in school. Please support Senate Bill 711.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Mahalo A Nui Loa,

Cheryl A Dias

EDU Testimony

From: Roma Johnson <romaj@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 10:53 AM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: SB711

I am writing in support of SB711 relating to early learning. Funding programs that support family child interaction programs is a priority for our state. Research shows that children learn best when interacting with those they love. Family child interaction programs support caregivers in showing them age appropriate, fun learning activities. Thank you.

Roma Johnson
73-4621 Kukuki Street
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Sent from my iPhone

EDU Testimony

From: K. Raina Whiting <rainawhiting@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 7:38 PM
To: EDU Testimony
Subject: Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali2i Kahele, Vice Chair
Committee on Education

Monday, January 30, 2017, 2:45 PM, Conf. Room 229

Support for SB 711, Relating to Early Learning

Aloha, I am submitting this testimony to express my very strong support for the funding of family child interaction learning programs.

I am a Kindergarten teacher at Na'alehu Elementary on Hawaii Island and a strong supporter of early learning programs. I see that students that enter kindergarten having experienced a focused learning environment are better prepared for kindergarten learning. I also notice a correlation in parent support and student success.

These programs provide families with tremendous support and prepare our keiki to make the transition into the formal learning process. Research has shown that there is a tremendous long-term savings to society when a child receives proper educational preparation.

Family child interaction learning programs works closely with parents to teach them how to be their child's first and foremost educator. It is a mixed delivery system that also equips parents to be well informed and how to be an advocate for their child.

Funding for these programs will provide a needed service to many of our keiki who today must enter a system without the proper preparation.

Please support SB 711.

Mahalo

Raina Whiting