



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

April 10, 2018

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

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: Measure: Governor's Message No. 661
Hearing Date: April 11, 2018
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Location: Room 229

Purpose of Measure: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, Cherilyn Shiinoki, for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) strongly supports the confirmation of Ms. Cherilyn Shiinoki to the Early Learning Board, for a term to expire June 30, 2018.

The input of parents is critical as EOEL works to carry out its statutory responsibility to develop Hawai'i's early learning system, from prenatal care to kindergarten entry. As such, the parent representative on the Board carries an important role.

Ms. Shiinoki is the executive director for Family Hui Hawaii, which offers a peer-to-peer parenting support program, and oversaw the administration of a contract with DHS to facilitate discussions with families and service providers to provide "on the ground" information to policymakers around young children. Her work in this arena, as well as her master's degree and experience as an educator in early childhood, make her a great asset to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure and express our support for Ms. Shiinoki's nomination.

April 3, 2018

To: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair
Senate Education Committee

From: Michael Fahey, Chair Nominations Committee,
Early Learning Board

Re: **GM 661 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, CHERILYN SHIINOKI, for a term to expire 06-30-2018.**

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

It is with great satisfaction that I ask you to confirm Cherilyn Shiinoki for Parent Representative on the Early Learning Board to expire 06-30-2018.

Cherilyn is a parent, leader, educator and supporter of parents of young children and their families in Hawaii. She is the executive director of the Family Hui Hawaii which implements a Peer-to-peer Parenting Support Program. With a master's degree in early childhood, she brings an understanding of children's development and care that will benefit to our work on the Early Learning Board (ELB).

Cherilyn has consistently attended ELB meetings since her interest in becoming our Parent Representative. We will look to her to guide and advise us on parents' views toward the Early Learning System. She is highly respected among her peers and has a firm understanding of ELB's objectives, strategies and focuses.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in strong support of Cherilyn Shiinoki's confirmation to the ELB for the last remaining months of this appointment.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Fahey

HEICC Representative, Chair Nominations Committee,
Early Learning Board

April 7, 2018

To: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele , Vice Chair
Senate Education Committee

From: Robert G Peters, Chair,
Early Learning Board

Re: **GM 661 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Cherilyn Shiinoki, for a term to expire 06-30-2018**

Wednesday, April 11, 2018, Conference Room 229, 2:45 pm.

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

I am offering this testimony in support of the confirmation of the Governor's nomination of Cherilyn Shiinoki to serve a term on the Early Learning Board (ELB) to expire on 06-30-18.

I have known Cherilyn since she interned as a student teacher at Hanahau`oli School, where I served as Head of School for 30 years. Cherilyn's work in the classroom indicated her solid understanding of early learning and child development. Her interactions with families were always positive and reflected her sense of the parent perspective and their hunger to do what was "right" for their child. She has taken this early skill and built upon it to now serve as the Executive Director of the Family Hui Hawaii, a fpeer-to-peer program supporting families as their child's first teachers. This makes her an ideal candidate to be a representative of parents on the Early Learning Board

Cherilyn's interest in the work of the ELB has been evident in her diligent attendance at meetings, despite only being able to participate as "public" member. She has followed our transition to a governing board and is informed about our work on the strategic plan. She should easily assume the role of a board member.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of Cherilyn Shiinoki.

Sincerely,
Robert G. Peters, Chair
Early Learning Board