



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. 670
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, Maureen Rawlins, for a term to expire June 30, 2020.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) strongly supports the confirmation of Ms. Maureen "Namaka" Rawlins to the Early Learning Board, for another term to expire June 30, 2020.

Ms. Rawlins has served on the Board as its Hawaiian medium early learning provider representative. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, which address the important need to provide early learning in the language and ways of our host culture, are an integral component of the early learning system (from prenatal care to kindergarten entry) that EOEL is charged with developing. Ms. Rawlins' expertise on Hawaiian medium early learning programs and extensive work in the community has been, and we hope will continue to be, a great asset to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure and express our support for Ms. Rawlins' 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 670 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, MAUREEN RAWLINS, for a term to expire 06-30-2020**

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

It is my pleasure to ask that you reconfirm Maureen "Namaka" Rawlins to another term on the Early Learning Board (ELB) to expire 06-30-2020.

Namaka has proven to be a dedicated and capable colleague who we have come to depend on for her expertise as the Hawaiian Language Medium Early Learning Provider Representative. Even though Namaka lives on Hawaii Island, it does not stop her from volunteering her time and energy to be part of committee work for the benefit of ELB and the Early Learning System.

Namaka has been a highly valued representative of the ELB. She is highly respected among her peers and has a firm grasp of ELB's goals, strategies and issues.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in strong support of Maureen "Namaka" Rawlins's confirmation to the ELB.

Sincerely,
Michael C. Fahey

HEICC Representative, Chair Nominations Committee,
Early Learning Board

April 11, 2018

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 GM670, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Advisory Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MAUREEN 'NĀMAKA' RAWLINS, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

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. 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
William Pila Wilson
David Miyashiro



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

www.ahapunanaleo.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

Ki'ope Raymond

Huilau Wilson

Keawe Lopes

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Executive Director

M. 'Ekekela 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'anāe

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Kō'olau Loa

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Kō'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Niuolahiki

Hawaiian Language Online

April 11, 2017
 2:45p
 Room 229

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair Senate Committee on Education
 Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Education
 State Capitol
 415 S Beretania St.
 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Kidani, Senator Kahele and members of the Senate Education Committee,

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo strongly supports GM670 nomination of Ms. M. Nāmaka Rawlins to the Early Learning Advisory Board as representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo, established in 1983, celebrates its 35th anniversary as the sole statewide provider of Hawaiian medium early learning. We continue our work to protect, preserve and perpetuate the Hawaiian language, recognized as an official language of Hawai'i along with English.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo recognizes the contribution of Ms. Nāmaka Rawlins to the movement to revitalize the Hawaiian language.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is a national leader in indigenous Native American language early education. Tribal organizations have adopted the Pūnana Leo model, putting babies and fluent Native language speakers together in a language rich environment to reverse language loss. Ms. Rawlins has testified in Congress on Native American languages in education. She was invited by the U.S. Department of Education to speak to and give guidance to the Directors of Native American and Alaska Native Students in Schools Programs.

Hawai'i's P-20 Hawaiian medium system model of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo infant/toddler/preschool, Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u (k-12), and the Hawaiian Language College demonstrates excellence in Hawaiian medium education.

Mahalo nui for this opportunity to provide testimony to support the confirmation of Ms. Nāmaka Rawlins to the Early Learning Board.

Dr. Kauanoë Kamanā
 Pelekikena

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 670 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Board,
Gubernatorial Nominee, Maureen Rawlins, for a term to expire 06-30-2020**

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

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele and Committee Members:

I am writing this testimony in support of the confirmation of Maureen (Namaka) Rawlins, a Governor's nominee for membership on the Early Learning Board (ELB) for a term to expire in 2020.

Maureen (Namaka) Rawlins has served as the Hawaiian medium representative on the ELAB since that position was included in statute. Her participation supports our efforts to address the needs of all *keiki* in Hawaii and their families. Namaka is our primary resource for Hawaiian immersion programs and her extensive knowledge and experience add significantly to our work. She has proven to be a dedicated, thoughtful and constructive member of the ELAB whose contributions are respected and helpful.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony in support of Maureen Rawlins' confirmation to the ELAB

Sincerely,

Robert G. Peters, Chair

Early Learning Board

From the office of -
Council Member
District 3



Office: (808) 961-8396
Fax: (808) 961-8912
Email: sue.leeloy@hawaiiicounty.gov

SUSAN L.K. LEE LOY
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

April 09, 2018

The Honorable Senator Michelle N. Kidani
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: GM670: Nomination of Maureen Rawlins to the Early Learning Board

2:45 p.m. April 11, Conference Room 229

Dear Senator Kidani and Members of the Committee on Education:

I am writing this letter in support of the nomination of Ms. Maureen Rawlins to the Early Learning Board. Ms. Rawlins brings a tremendous wealth of experience and institutional knowledge. I have known her professionally for more than 25 years.

She has worked on numerous boards and commissions which provides her with a deep understanding of the role and responsibilities that come with these positions. Having previously served in this capacity, her experience will allow her to understand and contribute to the work of the Board quickly.

I have every reason to believe Ms. Rawlins will provide effective oversight of the Early Learning Board, and the State of Hawai'i will benefit from her contributions and leadership.

Aloha Piha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan L.K. Lee Loy".

Susan "Sue" L.K. Lee Loy
Council Member, County of Hawai'i



Native Hawaiian Education Council

April 8, 2018

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

Via: Electronic Upload

RE: GM670 Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Early Learning Board, Gubernatorial Nominee, MAUREEN "NAMAKA" RAWLINS, for a term to expire 06-30-2020.

Aloha 'olua mai,

The Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC or the Council) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** Gubernatorial Nominee, MAUREEN 'NAMAKA' RAWLINS to the Early Learning Board (ELB).

Namaka will serve the ELB well: (1) In guiding the development of a comprehensive and integrated statewide early childhood development and learning system; (2) In coordinating efforts to help ensure a solid foundation for Hawai'i's young children, prenatal to age five, by working with partners, families, and communities, and connecting policies, programs, and funding in relation to health, safety, early childhood education, and school readiness and success.¹

Namaka will serve the families and communities of Hawai'i well in strengthening our public education system, beginning with early learning. Her resume and the Council's personal knowledge of her leadership and work, to support families and communities, speak to an individual with skills, competencies, experiences and leadership at the local, national and international levels. She is a recognized expert on early education, native language schools and programs and policy, particularly at the Federal level. Her work in the early learning, Hawaiian medium immersion education and native language schools and programs communities will serve our State well.

¹ Purpose and mission



Michelle N. Kidani
Ka`aiali`i Kahele
April 8, 2018
Page 2

The Council **strongly supports** Namaka’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.

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) 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



GM670

**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE EARLY
LEARNING BOARD, GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE, MAUREEN RAWLINS, FOR A TERM
TO EXPIRE 06-30-2020**

Senate Committee on Education

April 11, 2018

2:45 p.m.

Room 229

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** GM670, which would confirm Maureen “Nāmaka” Rawlins as a member of the Early Learning Board. OHA believes that Ms. Rawlins’ extensive range of professional experiences in indigenous education, combined with her dedication to community service, make her uniquely qualified to continue serving as the representative of Hawaiian Medium Early Learning Providers on the Early Learning Board (Board), a position she has held since 2012.

Raised in the Hawaiian Homes community of Keaukaha, Ms. Rawlins received her Bachelor of Arts in Hawaiian Studies as well as her Master of Arts in Hawaiian Language and Literature from the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. She is intimately familiar with the concerns and needs of Hawaiian language medium early learning providers, having served for eighteen years as the Executive Director and now currently the Director of Strategic Partnerships & Collaborations of the statewide ‘Aha Pūnana Leo program, which provides early education in the Hawaiian language throughout the twelve Pūnana Leo preschools on Hawai‘i, Maui, Moloka‘i, O‘ahu, and Kaua‘i. Accordingly, Ms. Rawlins’ experiences and continued engagement with ‘Aha Pūnana Leo make her a particularly valuable and appropriate choice as the Board’s Hawaiian Medium Early Learning Providers representative.

Ms. Rawlins’ extracurricular community work further demonstrates her strong dedication to the advancement of Hawaiian language medium education, as well as education in other indigenous languages both nationally and internationally. Her many accomplishments and activities include co-founding and currently serving as the Vice-President of the National Coalition of Native American Language Schools and Programs, which seeks to educate and advocate for the use of native languages as the medium of instruction in schools and programs. Ms. Rawlins also served for many years as a member of the Native Hawaiian Education Council’s Executive Council, and now serves on the Council as the designee of the Mayor of Hawai‘i County. As a result of her lifetime of work on behalf of indigenous language education, she is a frequent keynote speaker and presenter at national and international conferences on indigenous language revitalization, and in 2015 was presented with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by the

National Indian Education Association. Ms. Rawlins' dedication to the advancement of Hawaiian and indigenous language education, as reflected in these activities and others, again makes her a particularly valuable and appropriate choice for the Board.

OHA notes that in her personal capacity, Ms. Rawlins is a proud grandmother of two, one of whom is currently enrolled in 'Aha Pūnana Leo o Hilo, and the other a graduate of that program and now a student at Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'opu'u, a Hawaiian medium education public charter school.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** GM670.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

GM-670

Submitted on: 4/9/2018 3:02:23 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jin Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Kahele,

I humbly submit this testimony in strong support of Maureen Namaka Rawlins' confirmation to the Early Learning Board to a term to expire on June 30, 2020. Ms. Rawlins has served as the Hawaiian medium representative on the Board since the position was created in statute. Her perspective on Hawaiian medium education is indispensable on a Board that seeks to be inclusive of the needs of all families with young children. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Ms. Rawlins' confirmation to the Early Learning Board.

Sincerely,

Jin Chang

Family Child Interaction Learning representative, Early Learning Board

GM-670

Submitted on: 4/10/2018 11:02:51 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taffi Wise	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-670

Submitted on: 4/8/2018 2:10:41 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/11/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keiki Kawaiāea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha e Ka Lunahoāmalu Michele Kidani a me nā Iā Iā o ke Kāā Mike Hoāonaāauao o ka āAha Kenekoa,

Ke hāāike nei au i ke kā koāo piha i ka hā pai āia o ka inoa o Maureen Rawlins i Iā Iā o ka Papa Hoāonaāauao Pae Hoāomaka (Early Learning Board). He mea āo Maureen Rawlins i hana ma loko o ka hoāonaāauao pae kula kamaliāi ma loko o ka āālelo Hawaiāi no nā makahiki Iāāihi a ma nā kāā lana he nui loa mai ke kumu a hiki i ka lunahoāokele. He mea pāā āo ia i noho Iā Iā ma nā kāā Mike a papa like āole o ke aupuni mokuāā ina o Hawaiāi nei a pāā Iā pāā ma nā hui hoāonaāauao kaumokuāā ina.

āāāohe āāu moho i āike ai i like ka ikaika o ka paepae āike i āelele no ka hoāonaāauao kaiaāālelo Hawaiāi pae hoāomaka e like me Maureen Rawlins. Ke paipai ikaika nei au e āā pono āia āo ia.

Naāu me ka āoiaāiāo,

Keiki Kawaiāea

Lunahoāokele, Ka Haka āUla O Keāālikāālani

Ke Kulanui O Hawaiāi Ma Hilo