



LATE

Native Hawaiian Education Council

March 18, 2018

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
State of Hawai'i Senate
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Via: Electronic Upload

RE: HB1941 - RELATED TO EDUCATION 1.00 FTE WORLD Languages Institutional Support Position within the Department of Education

Aloha 'olua mai,

The Native Hawaiian Education Council (NHEC or the Council) **SUPPORTS HB1941 RELATED TO EDUCATION 1.00 FTE WORLD Languages Institutional Support Position within the Department of Education** based on our Native Hawaiian Education Platform and 2017-2018 Education Priorities (attached) and in support of the Native Hawaiian Education Mission, Vision and two Goals (attached).

The State of Hawai'i's constitution recognizes two official languages---Hawaiian and English and our support of two pathways of education and Board of Education policies 105.15, Seal of Bi-literacy and 105.14, Multilingualism for Equitable Education is aligned.

We analyzed the Department of Education's (DOE) 2018-2019 Supplemental Executive Budget and noted the World Language position (EDN 200 OCISS 25024) was not included. The position is needed at the state level to provide leadership for world language education and to successfully implement both policies 105.15 and 105.14.

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.



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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa M. Watkins-Victorino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Lisa M. Watkins-Victorino, Chair

cc: Policy & Advocacy and Executive Committees and staff

