



STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
2759 South King Street
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

February 3, 2021

TO: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: **Measure:** S.B. No. 1384 – RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING
Hearing Date: Friday February 5, 2021
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Room 229

Bill Description: Provides that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years pursuant to section 26-34(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not apply to the representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers' term limit. Repeals on June 30, 2025.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S COMMENTS

Good afternoon. I am Lauren Moriguchi, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL is providing comments on S.B. No. 1384 – relating to early learning.

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State's early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children. The Early Learning Board (ELB) was established as a governing board through Act 202, SLH 2017.

ELB is responsible for directing the EOEL on how best to meet the developmental and educational needs of children, from prenatal care to entry into kindergarten; providing recommendations to EOEL on improving the quality, availability, and coordination of early learning programs; promoting collaboration across agencies and stakeholders serving young children; and appoint the EOEL director and evaluating the director on an annual basis.

Recognizing the important role the ELB has in both representing the diverse field of early care and education in Hawaii and providing key insight and guidance to the EOEL, the ELB's perspective on this bill is of utmost importance.

The next ELB meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 11, 2021, in which this bill will be discussed. Following the meeting, EOEL will be able to provide more substantive comments regarding this bill, reflective of the needs expressed by ELB members.

THE ELB provides crucial input, direction, and oversight necessary for EOEL to achieve the statutory responsibilities of the Office. Representatives on the board are reflective of the diversity of the early care and education field in Hawaii, providing unique and important input on how to best serve Hawaii's families and young children. Hawaii is the only state in the United States that has designated a native language, Hawaiian, as one of its two official state languages. As such, the representative seat for Hawaiian medium early learning providers is a critical member and advocate for the important values of a Hawaiian medium early education.

Thank you for your consideration, and for the opportunity to testify on this bill. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.



SB1384
RELATING TO EDUCATION
Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Ho‘ona‘auao

Pepeluali 5, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Lumi 229

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the OHA Board of Trustees **SUPPORT** SB1384, which would facilitate the state’s kuleana to ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i by allowing for better, continued representation for Hawaiian medium early learning providers on the state’s Early Learning Board (ELB). Because the perpetuation of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i is so important to the evolving culture, health, and wellbeing of Native Hawaiians, this measure is may be crucial to ensuring the continued use and growth of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i in Hawai‘i and beyond.

Although our state is constitutionally mandated “to promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history, and language[,]” and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i has been an official state language since 1978,¹ much remains to be done to ensure the re-normalization of the Hawaiian language in the Hawaiian Islands. Ensuring that our early learning system and policies recognize the importance of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i immersion for Hawai‘i’s infants, toddlers, and preschoolers – which may also provide significant developmental benefits – may be critical to this goal. Accordingly, it is critical to have continuous and consistent representation of Hawaiian medium early learning providers on the ELB. However, the ELB seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers,” historically filled by the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo, is currently limited only to two, 2-year consecutive terms.² Thus, the “Hawaiian medium early learning provider” representative may not serve more than a maximum of four consecutive years. This poses a significant challenge for a representative with the requisite experience and institutional knowledge to consistently fill this position, and has limited the ability of the ‘APL representative from building the institutional knowledge and presence necessary to effectively advocate for the importance and value of a Hawaiian medium early education. Notably, this seat is currently empty and the ELB is suffering from the lack of ‘APL’s voice, which has otherwise consistently ensured that all ELB members understand and recognize the essential role of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i medium programming in the development and education of Hawai‘i’s growing keiki.

¹ HAW. CONST. ART. XV SEC. 4.

² HRS §302L-1.6(10) sets a two-year term for the representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers; HRS § 26-34(a) provides that “[n]o person shall be appointed consecutively to more than two terms as a member of the same board or commission[.]”

By exempting the Hawaiian-medium representative from the general two-term limit in HRS § 26-34(a), SB1384 will enable a representative of Hawaiian medium early education to maintain a consistent Hawaiian voice on the ELB and help to fulfill the greater mission to perpetuate and normalize the state's official language of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. The strength and endurance of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is intrinsically connected to the health and wellbeing of the Native Hawaiian people, and it is part of what makes Hawai'i an authentic, unique, and beautiful place for all our local keiki to enjoy, learn, and ultimately thrive.

E ola mau ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i!

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
Friday, February 5, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

By
Bonnie Irwin
Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 1384 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

Aloha e nā alaka'i o ka 'aha'ōlelo o Hawai'i nei,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 1384. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) supports the distinctive provisions of SB 1384 relating to the representation of Hawaiian language medium education on early education. UH Hilo is home to Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, College of Hawaiian Language, who has been leading efforts to revitalize the Hawaiian language while also serving as a model to national and international indigenous communities who also seek to revive their endangered languages. With support from the Hawai'i State Legislature, UH Hilo/Ka Haka 'Ula has established a complete baccalaureate through to PhD program that offers high quality education to develop capacity for Hawaiian medium education and the further advancement of Hawaiian and indigenous languages writ large.

The distinctive provisions of SB1384 allow for consecutive terms for the representative of Hawaiian language medium early education. There is an extreme shortage of qualified individuals for all aspects of education through Hawaiian. This provision allows the state access to important contributions from the small pool of highly qualified individuals in this highly distinctive area of education of our state.

The introduction of SB 1384 indicates an awareness of the unique challenges of developing high quality education through Hawaiian in the state and leadership in addressing those challenges.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to submit testimony and support this bill.

To: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee On Education

From: Robert G. Peters, Chair
Early Learning Board

Subject: **Measure:** SB 1384, Relating to Education
Hearing Date: Friday, February 5, 2021
Time: 3:00 PM
Location: Conference Room 229

Description: Provides that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years pursuant to section 26-34(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not apply to the representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers' term limit. Repeals on June 30, 2025.

Early Learning Board Position: Comments

I am Robert G. Peters, Chair of the Early Learning Board (ELB). Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on this bill, HB No. 2094, H.D. 1, on behalf of the Early Learning Board.

Through Act 202, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, ELB transitioned from an advisory to a governing board for the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) and is charged with formulating statewide policy relating to early learning. We are composed of members from across the early childhood field, in both the public and private sectors. One of those members is the representative of the Hawaiian medium early learning providers. Hawaii has designated Hawaiian as one of its two official state languages. As such, and to insure the ELB reflects the diversity of the early learning community, the representative for Hawaiian medium early learning providers is a critical member and advocate for the important values of a Hawaiian medium early education.

SB 1384 was introduced following the January Early Learning Board meeting. As a result, ELB has not had a chance to discuss/vote on SB 1384 to date. At its January meeting, the Board supported the intent of the `Aha Punana Leo draft bill (HB 546). The sense of the Board was that the term limit currently in statute was a barrier to continuity of representation that the amended bill would address.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on SB 1348.



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

Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo to the Senate Committee on Education

Date: February 5, 2021
 Location: State Capitol, Room 229

S.B. 1384: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the Committee,

'O wau 'o Ka'iulani Laehā, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo.
 Kāko'o 'ia SB1384.

My name is Ka'iulani Laehā, CEO, 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo supports SB1384, which provides that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years pursuant to section 26-34(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not apply to the representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers' term limit.

As the only statewide Hawaiian medium early learning provider, we advocated for and have served to represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system on the Early Learning Board (ELB). As the EOEL develops a comprehensive and integrated statewide early childhood development and learning system, 'Aha Pūnana Leo has identified the need to better facilitate continued representation on the ELB. SB 1384 allows for sustaining the effort to represent Hawaiian medium early learning for our keiki and 'ohana.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide support to S.B. 1384.

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauano'e Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

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'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Mahalo,

Ka'iulani Laehā



SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

Date: Friday, February 5, 2021 Time 3:00 PM Place: Conference Room 229

Testimony of Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna

SB 1384 – RELATING TO EDUCATION. **STRONG SUPPORT**

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

We, Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna, a group of kūpuna Hawaiian homestead farmers committed to the well-being of Hawai'i for the next generations to come, **are in strong support of SB 1384.**

SB 1384 provides that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years on the Early Learning Board shall not apply to the representatives of Hawaiian medium early learning providers' term limit. This provision will allow for more consistent and better overall representation from the same small pool of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.

We urge this Committee to PASS SB 1384. Mahalo.

Ua mau ke ea o ka 'āina i ka pono!



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
 Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'o ka **Pūnana Leo o Hilo** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'o 'ia ka mana'o e 'oi
 aku ka lō'ihī o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB
 i mau ke kāko'o i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Hilo **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
 continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
 represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, 'Iwa Kuamoo (School Coordinator)

Kumu, Laua'e Urbanozo (Teacher)

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Hilo

- 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'anae
- Pūnana Leo o Kona
- Pūnana Leo o Waimea
- Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
- Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
- Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
- Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Waimea** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e
'oi aku ka lō'ihī o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka
ELB i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Waimea **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Maluhia O'Donnell (School Coordinator)
Kumu Alaka'i, Kāhealani Tanimoto (Lead Teacher)
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Waimea

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i i



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Kona

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Kona** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e 'oi
aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB
i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

*Pūnana Leo o Kona **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Nā'ai Colburn (School Coordinator)
Kumu Alaka'i, Akelina Tibayan (Lead Teacher)
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Kona

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Maui

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Maui** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e 'oi
aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB
i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Maui **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Kili Nāmau'u (School Coordinator)
Kumu Alaka'i, Mailelani Nāmau'u (Lead Teacher)
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Maui

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoē Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Lahaina** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e
'oi aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka
ELB i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Lahaina **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Leilei Ishikawa (School Coordinator)
Kumu Alaka'i, Kamalei Cabrera (Lead Teacher)
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs
Aukukui
Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi
Kula Kamali'i
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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehō

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Hāna** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e 'oi
aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB
i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Hāna **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Kaimana Cabebe (School Coordinator)
Kumu Alaka'i, Maleka Tolentino (Lead Teacher)
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Hāna

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoē Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT** S.B. 1384: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'o ka **Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'o 'ia ka mana'o e
'oi aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka
ELB i mau ke kāko'o i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i supports SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

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'ānāne

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, U'ilani Ramos (School Coordinator)

Kumu, Aulani Herrod (Teacher)

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Kāko'o ka **Pūnana Leo o Mānoa** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'o 'ia ka mana'o e 'oi
aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB
i mau ke kāko'o i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Mānoa **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Kahōkū Lindsey-Asing (School Coordinator)

Kumu, Tiara Iokepa (Teacher)

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

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'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoē Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Honolulu** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e
'oi aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka
ELB i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Honolulu **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Leimomi Anderson (School Coordinator)

Kumu Alaka'i, Kamaka Ligon (Lead Teacher)

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Honolulu

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoë Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka
mana'o e 'oi aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo
Hawai'i ma ka ELB i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better
facilitate continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the
effort to represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and
'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo

Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Ka'ipo Maika'i-Kahana'oi (School Coordinator)

Kumu Alaka'i, Kāhealani Chang (Lead Teacher)

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoē Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the Committee,

Kāko'ō ka **Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'ō 'ia ka mana'ō e 'oi aku ka lō'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB i mau ke kāko'ō i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Ku'ulei Alves (School Coordinator)
Kumu Alaka'i, Poina'ole Laurito (Lead Teacher)
Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

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'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna



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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

Kauanoē Kamanā
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

Testimony from Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Date: February 5, 2021

Location: State Capitol, Room 229

RE: **SUPPORT S.B. 1384**: Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Kidani and Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the
Committee,

Ka Luna Ho'okele
Chief Executive Officer

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

Ka Luna Ho'okō
Chief Operating Officer

K. Sean Kekina

Kāko'o ka **Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i** i ka pila SB1384. Kāko'o 'ia ka mana'o e 'oi
aku ka lō'ihī o ka noho 'elele 'ōnaehana kamali'i kaiā'ōlelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB
i mau ke kāko'o i nā keiki me nā 'ohana 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

*Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i **supports** SB1384. We support the need to better facilitate
continued representation on the Early Learning Board for sustaining the effort to
represent our Hawaiian medium early learning system for our keiki and 'ohana.*

Nā Papahana
Pūnana Leo
Pūnana Leo Programs

Aukukui

Hale Kīpa 'Ōiwi

Kula Kamali'i

Mahalo nui loa!

Kahu, Waialoa Fernandes (School Coordinator)

Kumu Alaka'i, Pūnohu Meade (Lead Teacher)

Ke Kōmike Makua, Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

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'anae
Pūnana Leo o Kona
Pūnana Leo o Waimea
Pūnana Leo o Mānoa
Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina
Pūnana Leo o Hāna

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 7:08:09 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. William H. Wilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Legislators,

My name is Dr. William H. Wilson. I am a linguist working at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I have long been involved in Hawaiian language revitalization efforts, including sharing information on it to a broader national and international level.

I urge that the legislature approve the distinctive provisions of SB 1384 relating to the representation of Hawaiian language medium education on early education

Those distinctive provision allow for consecutive terms for the representative of Hawaiian language medium early education. There is a extreme shortage of qualified individuals for all aspects of education through Hawaiian. This provisions allows the state access to important contributions from the small pool of highly qualified individuals in this highly distinctive area of education of our state.

The introduction of SB 1385 indicates an awareness of the unique challenges of developing high quality education through Hawaiian in the state and leadership in addressing those challenges. It is a matter of pride for me in speaking with those from outside our state to relate the crucial role that the Hawai'i State Legislature has played in the development of Hawai'i's national and international leadership in Indigenous language medium education.

Mahalo for this bill and the many other related initiatives that have come out of our State Legislature.

Dr. William H. Wilson

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 10:37:24 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kehaulani Shintani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

" Kā• ko'o au i ko ka 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo mana'o e 'oi aku ka IÅ• 'ihi o ka noho 'elele 'Å• naehana kamali'i kaiÅ• 'Å• lelo Hawai'i ma ka ELB i mau ke kÅ• ko'o i nÅ• keiki me nÅ• 'ohana 'Å• lelo Hawai'i. I support the 'APL identified needs to better facilitate continued representation on the ELB. SB 1384 allows for sustaining the effort to represent Hawaiian medium early learning for our keiki and 'ohana."

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 1:13:47 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kea Kala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Kakool!

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 7:09:02 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kauanoë Kamana	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

‘O wau pÅ« me ka ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo ma ke kÄ• ko‘o i ka ‘Å• lelo ma SB1384 i hÅ• ‘ike mai no ka pÅ• pÅ• ‘ia o ka noho ‘elele no ‘elua kau moekahi e ‘a‘e ‘ole ana i ka ‘ewalu makahiki moekahi e like me ka ‘Å• lelo ma ka mÄ• hele 26-34 (a). ‘A‘ohe mana pili o ka HRS ma luna o ka palena pau o ka noho ‘elele kaia‘Å• lelo Hawai‘i. He hÅ• ‘oia i ka mÄ• lama a kÄ• ko‘o i nÄ• keiki a me nÄ• ‘ohana ‘Å• lelo Hawai‘i a pau o ko kÄ• kou ‘Å• ina aloha.

I join the ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo in support of the provisions in SB1384 which provide that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years pursuant to section 26-34 (a), HRS, shall not apply to the representative of Hawaiian language medium early learning providers' term limit.

This is a confirmation of our diligence and care for all of our Hawaiian speaking children and families who call Hawai‘i home.

Mahalo nui!

Dr. Kauanoë KamanÄ•

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 10:05:30 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Olan Leimomi Fisher	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou, Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

Mahalo so much for considering my personal testimony. My name is Olan Leimomi Fisher, and I am a lifelong resident of Mililani, O‘ahu, where I still live with my ‘ohana, and am currently hāpai (pregnant) with my first keiki. My great-grandmother was fluent in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, but due to the many negative impacts on our culture and people, she did not pass this gift onto my grandpa or mom, and I did not grow up learning much Hawaiian language at home. Although I studied ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i for over 10 years throughout high school, and even got a Bachelor's in Hawaiian Language, it is honestly very hard to maintain fluency, with statewide normalization still a long way to go. My hope with raising my baby girl is that one day she will be able to be fluent in her native language ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, ending the cycle that started with my great-Grandma, which I know will involve her attending Hawaiian language immersion school(s), hopefully starting with early learning. This is why Hawaiian medium providers, and particularly the role that 'Aha Pūnana Leo plays for helping our young keiki obtain fluency, is **SO** important.

Please pass SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, and also help fulfill the state’s constitutional mandate under Article X, Section 4, to promote the study of the Hawaiian language. Even with the constitutional mandate and Hawaiian language being an official state language since 1978, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo remains the only statewide early learning provider dedicated solely to Hawaiian language immersion for our pre-kindergarten keiki. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), ‘Aha Pūnana Leo has consistently filled the board’s position for “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term-limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for ‘Aha Pūnana Leo to supply a qualified representative with enough institutional knowledge and experience to adequately advise the Early Learning Board. This bill will help ‘Aha Pūnana Leo and potentially other Hawaiian-medium early learning providers to better maintain the Hawaiian voice on the state’s Early Learning Board. **Passage of SB1384 will also play a key part in the greater goal to perpetuate and normalize ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. Therefore, I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384!** Mahalo nui for your time & attention to this important measure to

Native Hawaiians and all who love living in Hawai'i's rich, unique culture, and raising our keiki in this aloha-filled place.

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 2:13:25 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charles Morgan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for considering my personal testimony. My name is Charles L Morgan, and I have been a resident of O'ahu since 1984 and Mililani since 1986. Even though I am far too old to learn to speak the Hawaiian language, I very much hope that my granddaughter, expected this coming April, will grow up in a community where both English and Hawaiian are commonly used and universally understood. It is very important that the State does everything it can to see that this hope is realized for all the people of Hawai'i.

Please pass SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, and also help fulfill the state's constitutional mandate under Article X, Section 4, to promote the study of the Hawaiian language. Even with the constitutional mandate and Hawaiian language being an official state language since 1978, 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo remains the only statewide early learning provider dedicated solely to Hawaiian language immersion for our pre-kindergarten keiki. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo has consistently filled the board's position for "representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers." However, the term-limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo to supply a qualified representative with enough institutional knowledge and experience to adequately advise the Early Learning Board. This bill will help 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo and potentially other Hawaiian-medium early learning providers to better maintain the Hawaiian voice on the state's Early Learning Board. **Passage of SB1384 will also play a key part in the greater goal to perpetuate and normalize 'ÅElelo Hawai'i for future generations to come. Therefore, I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384!** Mahalo nui for your time & attention to this important measure to Native Hawaiians and all who love living in Hawai'i's rich, unique culture, and raising our keiki in this aloha-filled place.

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 2:18:10 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Karynne L C Morgan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou, Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

My name is Karynne Leimomi Chong Morgan. I am a current resident of Mililani for nearly 35 years where my husband and I have raised three wonderful daughters. I was raised in 'Aiea, O'ahu and was fortunate to graduate from Kamehameha Schools in 1972 and from University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in 1978. From the late 50s-60s, it was such a struggle to know and take more pride in my Hawaiian history and heritage. I was both proud and yet ashamed to be part Hawaiian. We were raised mostly to be Chinese, and there was much pressure to speak good English, go to school and be proud Americans. My father and uncles all served in WWII, and both of my parents retired as federal civil service workers. My paternal grandmother was fluent in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and spoke it privately among her close family and friends. They did not share their language with the next generations. It's sad that I could not benefit more from their knowledge. Fast forward to the present, I am so grateful to the leaders in the community who have resurrected the teaching of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i through Pūnana Leo, Kamehameha Schools, and other entities. I am so grateful to those families and individuals who have committed to learning the language and history. I am so grateful for my nānā kumu, Vicky-Holt Takamine and Jeff Takamine for their teachings, which incorporate the language, history, music, hula and all things Hawaiian for young and older (like me) haumana (students). I have tried to pass on my Hawaiian pride to our daughters. We now are expecting a grandchild. My desire and dream for her and for the future of Hawaiians is for all to be able to live and thrive in Hawaii where 'Ōlelo Hawai'i is spoken and written as normally as English and that their Hawaiian pride and practices are equally as strong and common.

Please pass SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, and also help fulfill the state's constitutional mandate under Article X, Section 4, to promote the study of the Hawaiian language. Even with the constitutional mandate and Hawaiian language being an official state language since 1978, 'Aha Pūnana Leo remains the only statewide early learning provider dedicated solely to Hawaiian language immersion for our pre-kindergarten keiki. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), 'Aha Pūnana Leo has consistently filled the

board's position for "representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers." However, the term-limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo to supply a qualified representative with enough institutional knowledge and experience to adequately advise the Early Learning Board. This bill will help 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo and potentially other Hawaiian-medium early learning providers to better maintain the Hawaiian voice on the state's Early Learning Board. **Passage of SB1384 will also play a key part in the greater goal to perpetuate and normalize 'ÅEelelo Hawai'i for future generations to come. Therefore, I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384!**

Mahalo nui for your time & attention to this important measure to Native Hawaiians and all who love living in Hawai'i's rich, unique culture, and raising our keiki in this aloha-filled place.

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:08:14 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Benioni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅĀlelo Hawai‘i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅĀlelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:11:00 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ethan Porter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing 'ÅCElelo Hawai'i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a "representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers." However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing 'ÅCElelo Hawai'i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:25:02 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gordon B. Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:34:06 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Frances Dinnan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha Pā‘ānana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘Ā‘Ālelo Hawai‘i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘Ā‘Ālelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:29:47 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenichi Yabusaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator and Chair Kidani and Committee Members:

I am in favor of supporting SB1384. The Native Hawaiian people need early childhood education with cultural sensitivity/learning as related to their culture. The effects of Colonization of the Kingdom of Hawaii parallels what happened to the First Nations of the Mainland. The children of Hawaii need to be connected culturally via the many ways of education. Hawaii's Department of Education should do what is right. Thank you all for your efforts in passing SB1384.

Respectfully,

Kenichi K. Yabusaki, Ph.D.

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:46:23 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lora Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our Keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅCElelo Hawai’i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our Keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅCElelo Hawai’i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:49:07 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Ann K Poire	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Sample Testimony:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai‘i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:40:50 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lehua Kaulukukui	Testifying for Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai‘i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

Lehua Kaulukukui, Chair

Puakalehua Early Learning Consortium

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:52:54 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeremy Waihoakahea Joslin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe we need this act done so that we can continue teaching Hawaiian Language and Culture to the Children of Hawaii.

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:51:31 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tadia Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai’i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai’i for future generations to come.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 4:31:52 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamuela Werner	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Welina:

I support the intent of SB1384 that better ensures that the State’s Early Learning Board has continuous and consistent representation from Hawaiian medium early learning providers.

Me ke aloha,

Kamuela Werner

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 5:13:20 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rosanna ?Anolani Alegado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅCElelo Hawai’i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅCElelo Hawai’i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 5:38:36 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Banner Fanene	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass SB1384. Mahalo.

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 6:53:16 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Cabalse	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅĀlelo Hawai‘i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅĀlelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 4:43:22 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Kā• kou,

I am writing to ask that you please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing 'ÅElolelo Hawai'i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a "representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers." However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing 'ÅElolelo Hawai'i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384!

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Kimeona Kane

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 8:20:39 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noel Shaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by ‘Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities, and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai‘i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution. As such, since the Early Learning Board was established (formerly as the Early Learning Advisory Board), it has included a seat for a “representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers.” However, the term limits imposed on this position have created a serious challenge for this seat to remain continuously and consistently filled. This bill will help ensure that a Hawaiian voice maintains a continuous presence on the Early Learning Board, to promote the development of our keiki while also furthering the goal of perpetuating and normalizing ‘ÅElelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come. I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384! Mahalo!

LATE



Senate Committee on Education

Pō‘alima, Pepeluali 5, 2021

Via Wikiō

Ke Kapikala Moku‘āina

415 South Beretānia Street

Re: SB1384 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

Aloha Luna Ho‘omalua Michelle N. Kidani, Hope Luna Ho‘omalua Donna Mercado Kim and members of the Senate Committee on Education:

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs **SUPPORTS** the intent of SB1384. This bill for an act provides that the prohibition against serving two consecutive terms not to exceed eight consecutive years pursuant to section 26-34(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not apply to the representative of Hawaiian medium early learning providers' term limit and repeals on June 30, 2025.

At its 61st annual convention, the Association adopted resolution 2020-34, supporting the proposed 2021 bill to uplift ‘Aha Pūnana Leo’s voice on the early learning board. The bill will help to maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board, such as ‘Aha Pūnana Leo. This type of representation is crucial to the state’s ability to provide our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities as prescribed in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

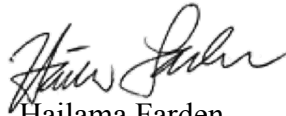
Thus, the Association respectfully urges the committees to **PASS** SB1384.

The civic club movement was founded in 1918 by Congressional Delegate Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana‘ole with the creation of the Hawaiian Civic Club; the Association was formally

organized in 1959 and has grown to a confederation of over sixty (60) Hawaiian Civic Clubs located throughout the State of Hawai‘i and the United States. The Association is the oldest Hawaiian community-based grassroots organization. The Association is governed by a 16-member Board of Directors; advocates for improved welfare of Native Hawaiians in culture, health, economic development, education, social welfare, and nationhood; and perpetuates and preserves language, history, music, dance and other Native Hawaiian cultural traditions.

Mahalo for allowing us to share our *mana* ‘o.

Me ka ‘oia ‘i ‘o,

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

Hailama Farden

Pelekikena

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

A RESOLUTION

NO. 2020 - 34

SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED 2021 BILL TO UPLIFT ‘AHA PŪNANA LEO’S VOICE ON THE EARLY LEARNING BOARD

WHEREAS, in 1983, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo was established to help revive ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i throughout Hawai‘i, and two years later the first ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i medium preschool started in Kekaha, Kaua‘i followed by 11 more sites currently in operation across the islands; and

WHEREAS, although ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i has been one of the state’s official languages for over 40 years since 1978, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo remains the only statewide early learning system conducted entirely in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i immersion for our pre-kindergarten keiki; and

WHEREAS, the Early Learning Board directs the executive office on early learning and provides recommendations to meet the developmental and educational needs of Hawai‘i’s pre-kindergarten keiki, while also promoting collaboration across keiki-serving stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, as the sole entity representing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i early learning opportunities across Hawai‘i, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo has identified its need for better representation on the state’s early learning board; and

WHEREAS, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo has experienced issues with sustaining its historically-filled position on the Early Learning Board due to term limits that inhibit the organization’s representatives from accruing and maintaining the necessary institutional knowledge and continuous presence to ensure understanding and recognition of the important role of ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i education for Hawai‘i’s growing keiki; and

WHEREAS, currently the chief executive officer of Kamehameha Schools and the executive director of the Hawai‘i Association of Independent Schools enjoy expressly “invited” positions on the Early Learning Board with no term limits; and

WHEREAS, ‘Aha Pūnana Leo, as the sole statewide entity dedicated to advancing ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i medium early education, deserves this same “invited” member status to ensure its continued presence on the early learning board, and fulfill its overarching goal to perpetuate and normalize ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i for future generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 61st Annual Convention held online, in the mālama of Makali‘i and the rising of

‘Olekūkolu, this 22nd day of November 2020, supporting the proposed 2021 bill to uplift ‘Aha Pūnana Leo’s voice on the Early Learning Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Chair of the Early Learning Board, Chair of the State Senate subject matter committee on Education, Chairs of the State House subject matter committees on Judiciary and Education, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai‘i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House subject matter committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors.



The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted in the malama of Makali‘i and the rising of ‘Olekūkolu on the 22nd day of November 2020, at the 61st Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs held online.

Handwritten signature of Hailama V.K.K. Fardon

Hailama V.K.K. Fardon, President

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/5/2021 12:00:54 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Villanueva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Continued support of any Hawaiian Language education is of the greatest importance. Early childhood education in the 'olelo Hawai'i medium must be well funded, well promoted, and made available and accessible for all.

LATE

SB-1384

Submitted on: 2/5/2021 2:31:15 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pili Keala-Quinabo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please PASS SB1384, which will help maintain the specialized Hawaiian-medium voice on the Early Learning Board. Hawaiian medium early learning programs, such as those provided by 'Aha PÅ«nana Leo, are key to providing our keiki with culturally enriched early education opportunities and may be crucial to fulfilling the vision of revitalizing and normalizing 'Å• Ielo Hawai'i as reflected in Article X, Section 4 of the state constitution.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB1384 no ka pono o nÅ• 'Å• iwi Hawai'i a me nÅ• pua maoli o nei 'Å• ina aloha.

Mahalo.