

Date: April 11, 2022

To: Senate, Committee on Education

From: Moku o Manokalanipō, Kauaʻi Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs  
Malia Nobrega-Olivera, President  
malianob@gmail.com

Re: Re: GM 801 - Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, DAMIEN BARCARSE, for a term to expire 06-30-2025

Aloha Chair Michelle Kidani, Vice-Chair Donna Mercado Kim, and members of the Senate, Committee on Education:

We're writing in STRONG SUPPORT of GM 801 which calls for the confirmation to the Board of Education, Damien Kaimana Barcarse, for a term to expire 06-30-2025. Moku o Manokalanipō has worked with Mr Barcarse in different settings that range from general education in Hawaiʻi, Hawaiian language and culture based education, and other civic and social issues, etc. We have witnessed his leadership and commitment to promoting excellence and equity for our keiki and our community. We feel that his experience with policy formulation and ongoing work on committees like human resources and student achievement will be of value to the work ahead for the Board of Education.

Therefore, Moku o Manokalanipō respectfully urges the Committee to SUPPORT the CONFIRMATION of Damien Kaimana Barcarse as stated in GM 801.

The Hawaiian civic club movement was founded in 1918 by Congressional Delegate Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalanianaʻole with the creation of the Hawaiian Civic Club; the Association was formally organized in 1959 and in 1968, the Hawaiian Civic Clubs on the island of Kauaʻi organized Moku o Manokalanipō, the Kauaʻi Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 1:10:28 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Pcola_Davis	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Damien Barcarse is an active Board Member. His strong knowledge of the Hawaiian Culture lends a perspective that is true Hawaii. He adds depth to discussions and poses relevant questions. He actively participates at all meetings. Thank you for accepting an extension of your continuing service.

841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

April 13, 2022

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee,

We support GM 801, submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, gubernatorial nominee, DAMIEN BARCARSE, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

We are delighted that the Governor has nominated Kaimana Barcarse for another term on the Board of Education (BOE). Mr. Barcarse has been a strong advocate of equity in education and Hawaiian education. He has committed to engaging in leadership roles on the BOE first as the Human Resource Committee Vice Chair, and now as the Committee's Chair. We appreciate the fact that Mr. Barcarse has consistently pressed the Department of Education for clear communication, transparency, and accountability. We look forward to working with Mr. Barcarse for another term on the BOE.

Hui for Excellence in Education, or "HE'E," promotes a child-centered and strength-based public education system in which families, communities and schools are valued and empowered to help every student succeed. HE'E works to bring diverse stakeholders together to harness collective energy, share resources, and identify opportunities for progressive action in education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support represents a 75% consensus or more of our voting membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director



Academy 21  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Atherton YMCA  
\*Castle Complex Community Council  
Education Institute of Hawai'i  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawai'i  
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation  
\*HawaiiKidsCAN  
\*Hawai'i Afterschool Alliance  
\*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
\*Hawai'i Association of School Psychologists  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Children's Action Network  
Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
\* Hawai'i State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Hawai'i P-20  
Hawai'i 3Rs  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation  
Learning First  
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Native Hawaiian Education Council  
Our Public School  
\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i  
Punahou School PUEO Program  
Special Education Provider Alliance  
\*Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
YMCA of Honolulu  
\*Youth Service Hawai'i

*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

April 11, 2022

To: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Education Committee Members: Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Kanuha, and Senator Fevella

From: Damien N. Kaimana Barcarse  
RE: GM801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education

E ke po‘o kōmike Kidani, hope po‘o kōmike Kim a me nā lālā kōmike Dela Cruz, Kanuha, a me Fevella, aloha nui mai kākou,  
*Honorable Committee Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Education Committee members, Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Kanuha, and Senator Fevella, aloha and greetings to us all,*

Mahalo a nui no kēia wā e noho mohou ai au no ka Papa Alaka‘i Ho‘ona‘auao, Moku ‘Āina o Hawai‘i. No ko‘u wā mua e noho papa alaka‘i ‘ana, ua pōmaika‘i maoli nō wau i ka hiki ke hana pū me nā hoa papa alaka‘i, nā alaka‘i DOE, nā kumu, nā ‘ohana, a me ke kaiāulu no ka pono ho‘ona‘auao o nā keiki o Hawai‘i nei. ‘O ka nui o ko‘u a‘o ‘ana, mai loko mai nō ia o nā haumāna e ka‘analike ‘ana i ko lākou mau mana‘o ma nā kipa kula, ma ka hāpai mana‘o ‘ana ma nā ‘aha ho‘olohe BOE, a ma ke kaiāulu ho‘i.

*Thank you for this opportunity to be considered for a second term as a board member for the State of Hawai‘i Board of Education. In my first term I was blessed to be able to work with and learn from my fellow board members, Department of Education leadership, teachers, families, and the community while working to better the educational opportunities for our students. However, I feel I have learned the most by hearing directly from our youth during school visits and through their passionate testimony they share at board meetings and community events.*

Ua ‘oko‘a loa ko‘u wā mua e noho papa alaka‘i ana i loko no o ka holomua maika‘i o nā mahina mua ‘ewalu, no ke kupu koke ‘ana o ka hihia ma‘i ahulau COVID. He huliau lua ‘ole ia no kākou a pau, keu aku no nā haumāna, nā kula, a me ka ‘oihana ho‘onau‘auao holo ‘oko‘a. I loko nō o ia hihia nui, me ka pīholo pū o nā ‘ōnaehana i kekahi manawa, ua kū mai nō kākou ka pae ‘āina e ‘imi ai i ka pono nō nā haumāna. ‘A‘ole i ‘aelike ‘ia nā ‘ano ho‘oholomua, akā ua ‘aelike ‘ia nō ka pono e holomua. Ke mao mai nei ka pō‘ino, akā ‘a‘ole loa i pau. ‘O kēia ka wā ho‘oulu hou, ka wā polapola, ka wā e ho‘ololi no ka pono. ‘O ka pahuhopu, ‘a‘ole ia ke ola hou wale nō. ‘O ka pahuhopu, ‘o ia ho‘i ka ulu ‘ana a ola piha pono!

*My first term on the board was unique indeed, in spite of some good progress in the first eight months, due to the COVID pandemic that hit us swiftly and with great impact. It was an upheaval like no other especially for our students, schools, and our entire education system. In spite of this great challenge, and also acknowledging our times of shortfall, we all stood together united in the desire for the best for our students. We never reached broad agreement of the best methodology to accomplish this, but we were and are, very united in the desire for nothing but the best for our students. The threat of the pandemic is lessening but not gone, and we are better able to adapt and live relatively safely with its presence. Now is the time for growth, the time for healing, the time to make positive change. Our goal is not just for our students to survive. Our goal is for our students, and therefore our communities, to thrive!*

I mohala ka pua i ke ke‘eke‘ehi o ka ua a me ka momona o ka lepo. Inā ‘ae mai ‘oukou ia‘u e ho‘omau he ho‘okahi hou puni noho papa alaka‘i ‘ana ma kēia kūlana, e hana ku‘upau ana kēia no ka pono o nā haumāna, nā kula, a me ke kaiāulu ma luna o ke kahua ‘ike o ko kākou ‘āina aloha a me nā hanauna i hele mua ai i mea e momona pono ai ke kaiāola no ko kākou mau pua. ‘O kēia ka‘u noi ha‘aha‘a.

*A flower blossoms with the falling of the rain and the richness of the soil. Let us work diligently to create the environments for our students to prosper. If you chose to afford myself the opportunity to continue to serve on the board of education, I commit to giving my all for our students, our schools, and our community by building on the great foundations of our 'āina, of aloha, and of those that have come before, to work together and create the environments for our pua, our students, to thrive. This is my humble request.*

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

*Damien N. Kaimanaonālani Barcarse*

Damien N. Kaimanaonālani Barcarse



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org  
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro  
Executive Director

April 13, 2022

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

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

**HawaiiKidsCAN supports GM801**, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, DAMIEN BARCARSE, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

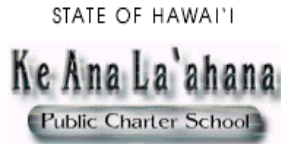
The Hawaii State Board of Education (BOE) is a critical organization for public education in Hawaii, with significant responsibilities that include the selection of a new state superintendent for the Hawaii State Department of Education (DOE), the approval of a new strategic plan, and oversight of the DOE to ensure students are recovering from learning loss exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the magnitude of issues facing the public education system, BOE members should be able to critically review data presented by the DOE, set a policy agenda that the DOE, legislature, and community partners can rally around, and look holistically at how schools are preparing kids for great careers and lives in Hawaii.

We support the nomination of Damien Kaimana Barcarse, as he has proven that he is willing to be a voice for accountability, transparency, and reason. In this time on the BOE, he has been one of the most consistent voices calling for the DOE to provide more specificity and clarity on key topics such as learning loss, pandemic response protocols, and federal stimulus spending plans. It is clear from his questions and contributions that he always puts students first in any decisions.

Mahalo for your consideration,

David Miyashiro  
Founding Executive Director  
HawaiiKidsCAN





Date: April 11, 2022

Re: GM801

Aloha e na Kenakoa:

Michele Kidani – Chair

Donna Mercado-Kim – Vice Chair

Donovan Dela Cruz

Dru Kanuha

Kurt Favella

I am writing in **support** of Mr. Damien Barcarse to the Board of Education through June 30th, 2025. I am currently the Po'okumu at Ke Ana La'ahana Public Charter School. Mr. Barcarse brings a wealth of knowledge to the table because of his leadership skills in navigating through our educational system that provides learning opportunities for all of our children. I have had the privilege of working with him in 'olelo Hawai'i, culturally based education, as well as community outreach and service.

Mahalo nui for your support to his confirmation to the Board of Education.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

*W. Mapuana Waipa*

W. Mapuana Waipa

Po'okumu, Ke Ana La'ahana Public Charter School



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

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Ki'ope Raymond

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**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 Kaua'i
- Pūnana Leo o Maui
- Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i
- Pūnana Leo o Wai'ānane
- 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
- Pūnana Leo o Nu'uānu
- Pūnana Leo o Waialua

Testimony of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo  
 GM801 Board of Education Gubernatorial Nominee Damien Barcarse  
 April 13, 2022  
 3:00PM  
 Conference Room 229

Aloha e Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair and Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair and members of the Senate Committee on Education

'O au 'o Ka'iulani Laehā, ka Luna Ho'okele o ka 'Aha Pūnana Leo. My name is Ka'iulani Laehā, CEO of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo wishes to testify in support of Governor Ige's nomination GM801, Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Board of Education.

As the only statewide early learning provider conducted in the medium of 'Ōlelo Hawai'i for Hawai'i's infants, toddlers, and preschoolers we have advocated for nearly 40 years in fulfilling the vision of E Ola Ka 'Ōlelo Hawai'i, Hawaiian language shall live.

Students from Pūnana Leo matriculate into standard DOE and charter schools taught through Hawaiian. The papahana kaiapuni was established to meet both the constitution mandate of the state as well as parents' desire for an education for their children in the Hawaiian language.

Damien Kaimana Barcarse is uniquely qualified to serve on the Board of Education as a speaker of both official languages of the state.

Damien Kaimana Barcarse has demonstrated his ability to serve on the Board of Education and seeks the confirmation for another term.

Mr. Barcarse worked with the 'Aha Pūnana Leo for many years with exceptional integrity and reliability. His contributions to the Hawaiian language revitalization movement in several areas including print and non print media, 'ōpio or youth cultural marine science engagement and practices that remains an integral part of today's curriculum in our schools even having authored oli and mele. Mr. Barcarse is a leader in our community and was instrumental in establishing the first Hawaiian language civic club, Ke Aloha 'Āina which conducts their proceedings in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. He continues to serve as a member of the civic club.

Damien Kaimana Barcarse will serve to promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history and language in public schools as required by the state constitution.

We urge that his confirmation be passed by this committee and the full senate.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

  
 Ka'iulani Laehā

4/11/2022

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

RE: Support for Confirmation to the Board of Education for Damien Kaimana Barcarse

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

I am happy and honored to submit this letter of support for the reappointment of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to serve on the Board of Directors of the Department of Education (DOE).

I have known Mr. Barcarse for the past two decades throughout his roles of service beginning with the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo and his leadership in developing multi-media resources and Hawaiian science curriculum and experiences to support Hawaiian medium education – and Hawaiian language renormalization writ large. I also continue to serve with Kaimana on the board of ‘Ohana Wa‘a – a non-profit organization established to support the preservation, advocacy and sustainability of deep-sea voyaging traditions through Hawai‘i.

Kaimana has a strong professional work ethic and unique relationship building skills that make him an effective leader. He has been an active member of the BOE and I believe has been a great community representative able to support shared goals and values while also helping to guide it towards a positive future in serving our keiki, families, community and lāhui. He is strategic, courageous and passion driven to solve difficult challenges and simultaneously strives to create unique opportunities for Hawai‘i and its future generations.

I support the reappointment of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to serve as director on the Board of Education. I am confident that he will continue to serve with effectiveness and with excellence that will be a vital asset to the board. Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to provide a letter of support.

Ka‘iu Kimura  
Hawai‘i Island Community Member  
Executive Director, ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center



‘Apelila 12, 2022

Senate Committee on Education  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Senators Donovan Dela Cruz, Dru Kanuha & Kurt Fevella  
RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education  
Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Aloha nui Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and Senate Education Committee members Dela Cruz, Kanuha and Fevella!

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to support the nomination and reappointment of Damien Kaimana Barcarse (Kaimana as I know him) to the Board of Education for the term to expire on June 30, 2025. My name is Hailama VKK Farden, Pelekikena (President) of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs.

I humbly and happily support Kaimana’s nomination and reappointment to the Board of Education. I have known Kaimana for over 20 years. Kaimana’s early contributions to Education was in his work documenting some of Hawai‘i’s last living native speakers (mānaleo) of the Hawaiian Language- some of which can be appreciated in classrooms and other forums today, many years after the passing of these precious kūpuna. His work for Pūnana Leo and currently, with the Kamehameha Schools lends his committed expertise in education, Hawaiian language and civic engagement to the talents of those serving on the Board of Education. Kaimana’s contribution of critical impact (beyond that which I have discussed above) is in his deeper knowledge of way-finding and wa‘a (canoe) livelihood –contained in itself the well-being of a crew (or Board in this case) – a skill that will lend itself well should the Board require engaged mediation or experience difficulty in navigating through tough situations. Also, in the spirit that among the DOE’s public schools are Hawaiian language immersion and charter schools, it is imperative that Board members fluent and functional in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i be seated – Kaimana serves well in this capacity; while also being firmly balanced in current educational and 21<sup>st</sup> century educational skills and best practices.

In his capacity as a member of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, Kaimana is a member of the Ke Aloha ‘Āina Hawaiian Civic Club of the Association’s Hawai‘i Island Council for which he has served as Director. Kaimana also serves as the Association’s Hawaiian language forum chair since 2019.

Considering the depth of knowledge and experience in which Kaimana is engaged, I wholeheartedly support the nomination of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Board of Education.

Me Ke Aloha!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hailama Farden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Hailama" and the last name "Farden" clearly distinguishable.

Hailama V.K.K. Farden, President  
The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs



## **Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs – Moku o Keawe**

Hawai'i Island Council  
P.O. Box 7164 | Hilo, Hawai'i | 96720

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### **Senate Committee on Education**

Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 3pm

Re: GM801 DAMIEN KAIMANA BARCARSE, NOMINATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and committee members,

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs – Moku o Keawe, Hawai'i Island Council, **STRONGLY SUPPORTS GM801**, the reappointment of Mr. Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Board of Education. The BOE has benefited from his credentials, experiences, and community collaboration to uphold the integrity of Hawai'i's education goals. Furthermore, his knoweldge and experience with Kaiapuni Schools allow for the BOE to properly address Hawaiian Immersion School needs and compliance needs.

Mahalo for the oppportunity to provide testimony in support of Mr. Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the BOE, for a term to expire June 30, 2025.

Mahalo Nui,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Palacat-Nelsen".

Shane Akoni Palacat-Nelsen  
Pelekikena



April 12, 2022

Senate Committee Chair Kidani,  
Vice Chair Mercado Kim  
Committee Members

RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education  
Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he is dedicated to the education of Hawai'i's children, he is an educator and has worked in a Hawaiian Charter School, his work as the former president and member of the Ke Aloha `Aina Hawaiian Civic Club focuses on mentoring youth in the advocacy process, he is committed to education which is demonstrated in his volunteer work with the Nā Kālai Wa`a non-profit organization which devotes a great deal of its effort to teaching traditional Hawaiian wayfinding `ike to youth, and because he uses his experiences and education to ensure that Hawaii's children have increased and improved opportunities for access to education. Mr. Barcarse's presence and contributions to the Hawaii Board of Education are vital in this time of challenges to Hawaii's youth.

I ask, in all humility and respect, that your committee support the nomination of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Hawaii Board of Education.

Me ka `oia`i`o,

EDITH KAWAI  
Waimea Hawaiian Civic Club, President

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 11:00:54 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chadd Paishon	Testifying for Na Kalai Wa`a	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education*

*Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm*

*Aloha Senate Committe on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he has been committed to the education of Hawai`i's keiki, makua, community and his ohana thru his unique lense of the Hawaiian language, as a voyager and a member of Ohana Wa`a.*

*Kaimana made this commitment prior to becoming a Board of Education member and continues to share with our communities and the organizations that he engages with the responsibility we all carry as community members of this very special place that we share in, Hawai`i. Kuleana, responsibility, is a value that we have witnessed from Kaimana and I hope that each of you are able to support in confirmation of Damien Kaimana Bacarse to the Board of Education.*

*Me ka `oia`i`o,*

*Chadd `Onohi Paishon, Pwo Navigator, Makali`i - Hokule`a, Ohana Wa`a*

*Senior Captain, Na Kalai W`a*





# 'AHA KAULEO

STATEWIDE COUNCIL FOR KA PAPAHAHA KAIAPUNI

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Date: April 11, 2022

To: The Honorable Ronald Kouchi, President  
Senator Kidani, Senate Committee on Education Chair  
Senator Kim, Senate Committee on Education Vice Chair  
And Members of the Senate

From: Kahele Dukelow, Luna Ho'omalua (President)  
Kananinohea Māka'imoku, Hope Luna Ho'omalua (Vice President)  
'Aha Kauleo Statewide Council for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni  
Advisory to the Office of Hawaiian Education

Aloha mai e kakou,

The 'Aha Kauleo (AKL) is a council of parents, teachers and administrators of Kaiapuni or Hawaiian language immersion schools across the state. We advocate for increased and improved support of Kaiapuni schools and work closely with our school communities, the State Department of Education through the Office of Hawaiian Education, the Board of Education and the University of Hawaii through its Hawaiian language, Hawaiian studies and education programs.

The AKL writes in **strong support** of GM801, *confirming the continued service of Mr. Damien Barcarse as a member of the Board of Education with an expiration date of June 30, 2025*. Mr. Barcarse holds a Bachelor of Hawaiian Studies degree, and a Master of Hawaiian Language and Literature degree from the University of Hawaii at Hilo. In addition to his degrees, Mr. Barcarse has a wealth of experience as an educator, a Hawaiian language and culture scholar, and a practitioner. His presence on the Board of Education ensures the State's continual effort to align educational policies for the betterment of Hawaiian Education, and in accordance with Article X, Section 4 and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978).

AKL is committed to achieve equity and excellence for our Hawaiian language immersion program, and although Mr. Bacarse' appointment alone will not address all the issues facing Hawaiian Education, it is a good starting point that will have a positive impact within our communities across Hawaii.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,  
Kahele Dukelow, Luna Ho'omalua  
Kananinohea Māka'imoku, Hope Luna Ho'omalua

**Membership:** Alo Kehau o ka Aina Mauna (Honokaa High, 9-10), Ke Kula o Ehunuiakaimalino (K-6), Ke Kula o Ehunuiakaimalino (7-12), Ka Umeke Kaao HI PCS (K-6), Ka Umeke Kaao HI PCS (7-12), Ke Kula o Nawahikalaniopuu Iki PCS (K-8), Ke Kula o Nawahikalaniopuu (Hilo High, 9-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Hana (K-5), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Lahaina (6-8), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Lahainaluna (9-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Maui ma Kalama (6-8), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Maui ma Kekaulike (9-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Maui ma Paia (K-5), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Nahienaena (K-5), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Lanai (K-1), Kualapuu PCS (K-6), O Hina i ka Malama (Molokai Middle, 7-8), O Hina i ka Malama (Molokai High, 9-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Anuenue (K-6), Ke Kula Kaiapuni Anuenue (7-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Hauula (K-6), Ke Kula Kaiapuni Hawaii o Kahuku Academy (7-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Kailua (9-10), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Nanakuli (K-6), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Puohala (K-8), Ke Kula o Samuel M. Kamakau PCS (K-6), Ke Kula o Samuel M. Kamakau (7-12), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Waiau (K-6), Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Waimanalo ma Blanche Pope (K-2), Kawaiikini PCS (K-6), Kawaiikini PCS (7-12), Ke Kula Niihau o Kekaha PCS (K-6), Ke Kula Niihau o Kekaha PCS (7-12), UH Hilo-Hale Kuamoo, UH-Hilo-Ka Haka Ula o Keelikolani, UH-Hilo Kahuawaiola, Brigham Young University, Aha Punana Leo, Kamehameha Schools Bishop Estate, UH-Manoa COE, UH-Manoa Kamakakuokalani, UH-Manoa Kawaihuelani, & UH-Maui E Hooulu Lahu.

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, CHAIR  
KIDANI, VICE CHAIR MERCADO KIM**

**Testimony in Strong Support of GM801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse,  
Nomination to Board of Education**

**Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 3:00PM  
Senate Conference Room 229  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street**

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

‘Ahahui Siwila Hawai‘i o Hanalei is in strong support of the appointment of Damien Kaimana Barcarse’s nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. We believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position as an advocate in supporting Hawai‘i’s Kaiapuni Schools and ensuring our Public School education system is relevant in serving our future leaders. Mahalo the opportunity to share our support and we humbly urge you to appoint Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Board of Education.

Mahalo piha,  
**Dr. Kapua L. Chandler**  
**President, Hanalei Hawaiian Civic Club**

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 1:52:57 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lily Alohihea-Smith	Testifying for KIK Kaeaikahelani Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education*

*Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm*

*Aloha Senate Committe on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he is an exemplary leader in our community that serves with the truest sense of aloha. He has supported our organization since we opened our hālau in 2015 in ways that have contributed to our success today. Through volunteering to sharing his knowledge that spans our cultural landscape vastly. His insight and support has consistently been a critical part of the progress of our hālau. He is there to encourage us and share his ideas and kōkua to do whatever he can to ensure our success. I believe with his academic background, his cultural foundation and an advocate for our native education especially our Hawaiian language, he would continue to be a integral part of Hawai'i Island's Board of Education. I am thankful to be able to submit testimony in support of Kaimana Barcarse.*

*Me ka 'oia 'i 'o,*

*Your Name, (optional:island and affiliation[parent, teacher, community member, organization])*



April 10, 2022

To: Senate Committee on Education Chair Senator Michelle Kidani and Vice Chair Senator Donna Mercado-Kim and Members of the Senate

Fr: Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network

RE: GM801: IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR DAVID IGE'S APPOINTMENT OF DAMIEN N. KAIMANAONĀLANI BARCARSE TO THE HAWAI'I STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network is in full support of Governor David Ige's appointment of Damien N. Kaimanaonālanī Barcarse of Hilo, Hawai'i to a second term on the State of Hawai'i Board of Education. Kanaeokana is grateful for Governor Ige's decision to appoint Mr. Barcarse for another term.

As a Hawaiian education network, Kanaeokana's mission is to collaboratively develop and strengthen a Native Hawaiian education system—built on a strong 'ōlelo Hawai'i and 'ike Hawai'i foundation—to grow and sustain aloha 'āina leaders. His tenure on the Board and his capacity as a private citizen demonstrates that Mr. Barcarse understands the need for Native Hawaiians to succeed in the public education system. His previous term of three years was marked by integrity, thoughtfulness, and dedication to his important kuleana as a BOE member.

Our network values Board Member Barcarse's deep-rooted Hawaiian knowledge, education experience, and integrity in fulfilling his duties. His experience in Hawaiian education has provided the Board and its chair with deeper insights to evaluate and strengthen Board policies for all learners.

Therefore, the Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network is in full support of Governor David Ige's appointment of Damien N. Kaimanaonālanī Barcarse of Hilo, Hawai'i to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

Sincerely,

Kanaeokana Kula Hawai'i Network  
advocacy@kanaeokana.net

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 8:12:45 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mikihala Mahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because his commitment to our children's education is a high priority for him. I believe that he has more to accomplish for our keiki.*

*Me ka 'oia 'i 'o,*

*Mikihala K. Mahi*

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 6:43:47 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Hope McKeen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui e ke komike ho‘onauao,

E ka luna Kidani a me nā lālā komike,

E ‘olu‘olu, Please confirm Damien Barcarse that has been nominated to the Board of Education. He is a strong community contributor and I believe he has the best interest of our keiki and community always in mind. He has a deep sense of kuleana to our place and people to make Hawai‘i and education of most importance. He is the right choice for the Board of Education.

Na‘u nō

Hope Pualani McKeen

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 4:41:26 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
A. Keliikanoe Mahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education*

*Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00 pm*

*Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he sincerely engages with the community and is a great representative of our community. His background allows him to provide insight into the Native Hawaiian community and his professionalism provides a balance in the arena.*

*Me ka 'oia 'i 'o,*

*Keli'ikanoe Mahi*

*former DOE kaiapuni principal in Kona, Hawai'i*

*current Director of the non-profit, Hiki Ola*

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 6:12:49 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alexander K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he is a person of integrity and has the best interest of all Hawai'i's keiki at heart. He brings to the board a unique Hawaiian perspective fostered by his command of the Hawaiian language. This perspective combined with his work in the community, both in the local and global arena, has prepared Mr. Barcarse to make decisions for the greater good of Hawai'i's own. For these reasons, I strongly urge you to consider reappointing Mr. Barcarse to the Board of Education.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,  
Alexander K.D. McNicoll  
Community Member, O'ahu



**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 10:44:47 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tiare HewLen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I have been happy with how he has represented our island. Being a parent of 6 children attending a Kaiapuni/Hawaiian Immersion school we are proud to have a native speaker represent us. We have felt misunderstood and left behind during this pandemic but know our representative is mindful of us and everyone as a whole. I feel his demeanor and skills have supported his ability to negotiate well with the various parties to develop quality MOU this past year. we appreciate Kaimana and the BOE board as a whole for navigating us through such a tough year! Kaimana's support in the differential pay for Special Ed. and Hard to Staff including Kaiapuni kumu comes with much appreciation. Our 'ohana supports the reappointment 100%. We believe he can continue to make positive impact as our Hawai'i island representative.*

*Me ka 'oia 'i'o,*

*Tiare HewLen (parent at Ke kula o 'Ehunuikaimalino)*

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/10/2022 11:10:46 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Benedict Ah Lun Yung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Senator Kidani, Vice Chair Merchado Kim and esteemed committee members Senators Dela Cruz, Kanuha and Favella,

Mahao for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

While working at 'Aha Pūnana Leo and under Kaimana's supervision in the Honuakai program (Voyaging & WayFinding) he displayed impeccable leadership. He is creative, has the ability to maintain clarity and to quickly recognize a flaw and make corrections. His inclusiveness to all is certainly at the top.

And as a fellow crew on voyaging canoes his attention to safety, focus to navigational skills and the health of both the crew and vessel, these too are points to the willingness of being a able person to mind this post.

I believe Kaimana will be an asset to help bring our goals, values and to assist in the guidance towards a positive future in serving our keiki, families, communities and Lāhui.

I thank you for this opportunity

Benedict Ah Lun Yung, Keaukaha, Hawai'i, retired lineman Hawai'i Electric Light Co., Ocean Specialist at 'Aha Pūnana Leo and member of Honuakai, 'Ohana Wa'a, Nā Kalai Wa'a Moku o Hawai'i and Polynesian Voyaging Society.

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 7:04:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
TERRY KIMOKEO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education

Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Aloha Senate Committe on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he is a good person who will fight for the good of the keiki, the 'ohana, and the kaiāulu. He is also very knowledgable in education issues.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Terry Kimokeo, Hawai'i Island, Kupuna

Tamia M. McKeague  
tamiamck@gmail.com  
Hilo, Hawai'i

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RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education  
Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

April 11, 2022

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

I am humbly honored by this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

I have known Kaimana professionally, personally, and as a valuable contributor to our Hawai'i Island communities. Kaimana has demonstrated, his ability to bring our shared goals and values to the Board while also guiding it to a positive future for our keiki. Furthermore, his life-long dedication and commitment to the education and well-being of our keiki, 'ohana, and lāhui, is why I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position.

I am confident that Kaimana Barcarse, will continue to be an asset to the Board of Education, and I humbly ask that you support his reappointment.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,



Tamia M. McKeague  
Community Member  
Hilo, Hawai'i

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 4:30:56 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandi Beaudet	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senate Committee Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and Committee Members Senators Kanuha, Dela Cruz, and Favella.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe Kaimana is right person for this position. I have had the privilege of working along side Kaimana as a professional and community member and have experienced his dedication to the education of Hawaii's keiki. Supporting his confirmation to the Board of Education provides Kaimana with one of the highest platforms in which to serve and support our educational systems. I am confident that Kaimana will continue to serve well as a Board member.

Mahalo piha,

Brandi Beaudet

April 11, 2022

To: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Education Committee Members: Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Kanuha, and Senator Favella

From: Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka, Ed.D.

RE: GM801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education

POSITION: **Strong Support**

*Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

Mahalo for another opportunity to provide testimony **in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education** for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I was a public educator for 20 years, teaching at D.O.E. and public charter schools on Hawai'i island. I also served on the Hawai'i Teachers Standards Board. Back in 2019 I submitted testimony in strong support of Mr. Barcarse. Three years later, having watched Mr. Barcarse serve on the Board of Education, **I again lend my strong support for a second term.** In my 2019 testimony, I framed my supporting arguments for Mr. Barcarse around the concepts of alaka'i (leader) and kāko'o (support). I look at how Mr. Barcarse served on the board during his first term through this frame. How has he functioned as that strong alaka'i that examines all information from multiple vantage points to determine the best direction? How has he supported people along the determined pathway? How has he functioned as the trusted navigator that works with the entire wa'a to move the collective through storm systems?

If you have seen Mr. Barcarse in action during the Board of Education meetings, you would know that he has indeed been that trusted navigator that sees beyond the horizon and has pushed the conversations to move toward the evolution of public education. He has been that trusted captain that pays attention to the well-being of the wa'a (the "institution" of public education) and the well-being of the crew (all public education stakeholders). He has been vigilant in unveiling system vulnerabilities and has provided insight into how to rehabilitate those vulnerabilities. He has done his best in his limited capacity and authority to hold decision-makers accountable for choices that pointed the wa'a in the wrong direction.

As a stakeholder that was on this wa'a for twenty plus years as a classroom teacher and administrator and now as the aunty and grandmother of small ones and big ones who need the wa'a to evolve, we need Mr. Barcarse on that navigator's platform (the Board of Education)! He has the lens of an educator, a captain, and a navigator. He has strong, pae'āina-wide connections to community that provide him with critical and timely insight. He is a genuine believer and advocate of holomua kūpono (moving forward in the right way). We need this wa'a to holomua, evolve, and live up to its function in lifting communities generationally so that public education in Hawai'i escapes the clutches of continental calamity and embraces our true island reality and identity. We need Mr. Barcarse, his vision, voice, and skillsets on that navigator's platform! His course correction work has just begun, and there is a lot more course line to overhaul.

*Me ke kāko'o pihā,*

*Roxane K. Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka*

*Roxane Keli'ikipikāneokolohaka, Ed.D*

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 8:51:11 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paanaakala Tanaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education

Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Ke aloha nō e Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

Thank you for this opportunity, it is an honor to provide testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation for Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Board of Education, a term that expires 06-30-2025. I have known Kaimana for over 13 years as an educator within the organizations of ‘Aha Punana Leo and the University of Hawaii at Hilo as well as a fellow crew member, captain, and navigator onboard the voyaging canoes Hōkūalaka‘i and Hōkūle‘a. Fluent in Hawaiian language, Kaimana possesses the knowledge of both Hawaiian and western perspectives and pedagogies and navigates the two with a fluid balance. He sees the value in both systems and applies this knowledge in education, community, and business. In addition, Kaimana carries strong administration skills and is an exemplary oral and written communicator. I believe that these strengths that Kaimana possesses make him an outstanding candidate for the Board of Education and I support his nomination.

Na‘u me ka ‘oia‘i‘o a me ke ha‘aha‘a,

Pā‘anaakalā Baybayan Tanaka,

Education Director

Hui o Wa‘a Kaulua (Maui based voyaging organization)

Captain and Navigator, Mo‘okiha o Pi‘ilani and Hikianalia

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 12:54:07 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Uilani Naipo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025. I've known Kaimana for more than 12 years and in all the years, he has been my kumu, mentor, and trusted friend. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he has extensive and diverse experience in education under his belt. He was a college student who became part of the Hawaiian language renaissance, and then became a teacher in Hawaiian medium education. I was a college student of Kaimana's at University of Hawai'i - Hilo, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani. I worked for him as he lead Hawaiian cultural educational programs for middle school and high school students. I find that Kaimana is one who excels in a practice and shares his knowledge and experiences by teaching and mentoring others. He's created curriculum for different audiences and age groups. I support Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education. I would like him continue the great work he does for our keiki, community, and Lāhui.*

*Me ka 'oia 'i'o,*

*U'ilani Naipo, Hawai'i Island, Community Member*



Senate Committee on Education

**RE: SUPPORT FOR DAMIEN KAIMANA BARCARSE TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Aloha e Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the Senate Committee on Education

This letter is being submitted in **SUPPORT** of the confirmation of the Governor's nomination of **DAMIEN KAIMANA BARCARSE** to the Board of Education as the representative for Hawai'i County.

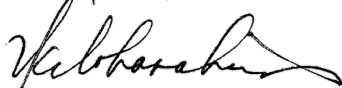
I first met Kaimana for nearly 30 years at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and have since had the privilege to work with Kaimana in different capacities in our community. His passion for community and education are evident in his roles in the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC) as a past president of the 'Ahahui Siwila Hawai'i 'o Ke Aloha 'Āina, the vice president of the Hawai'i Council of the AHCC.

I am also always impressed with his commitment to perpetuating the values and tradition of our Hawaiian culture, through 'ōlelo Hawai'i, hula, and voyaging. In his time with the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, he worked diligently to produce numerous media productions in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for use in our immersion schools; recording mānaleo kupuna, mele Hawai'i and feature length movies. Most recently he has been one of the DJs of the weekly 'ōlelo Hawai'i radio show, Alana I Kai Hikina.

As a member of the 'Ohana Wa'a and Polynesian Voyaging Society, he served as an educational liaison while also crewing legs during the World Wide Voyage. This connection to Hawaiian Culture Based Education in action is an practical application to understanding Nā Hopena A'ō.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimny to **SUPPORT Damien Kaimana Barcarse** and his nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education.

Me ka māhala,



A. Kilohana Hirano

'Ōla'a, Hawai'i

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 2:04:50 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
R. Leinani Makekau-Whittaker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Welina mai me ke aloha,

I am submitting this testimony in support of the reappointment of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Hawai'i State Board of Education. Mr. Barcarse has done an outstanding job serving on the Board for the last two years and has contributed immensely to improving public education for this state. Mr. Barcarse's understanding of Hawaiian education is as asset to Board.

Me ke kako'o piha,

R. Leinani Makekau-Whittaker

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 5:12:51 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lilinoe Sterling	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education*

*Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm*

*Aloha Senate Committe on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because of his well rounded experience and skill set in traditional education settings as well as in 'āina/culturally based ones. His determination to serve and advocate for his community is unparalleled and I believe he would continue to do so with the utmost integrity and passion. His voice and perspectives create space for growth and balance within the BOE, as they are representative of the community you all serve.*

*Me ka 'oia 'i 'o,*

*Lilinoe Sterling (teacher, Ka'ōhāo School)*

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 11:27:55 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kea Kala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in ***strong support*** of Damien Barcarse's reappointment to the Board of Education. His leadership skills and years of experience in public and private education will help align the strategic planning and student assessment outcomes that continue to bring out the best in all of Hawai'i's keiki.

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 11:18:58 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lucille Chung	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE: GM 801 Damien Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 6-30-25. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because of the mere fact that he is being renominated to this position by Governor Ige because of the contributions he has already made on this board.

I have known Kaimana for many years through my engagement in the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, as an individual, in individual club relationships, on the Hawaii Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs - there are nine clubs on the island of Hawaii, and the Hawaii State Association. Kaimana is intelligent, articulate, thoughtful and culturally grounded which makes him an invaluable asset to any entity he is engaged with. The Board of Education needs Kaimana's ike (knowledge) and aloha for the keiki and those who are responsible for our keiki's success in education to be part of the decision-making authority for the future leaders of our lahui.

Me ka `oia`i`o,

Lucille V. Chung, Vice-President, Hawaiian Civic Club of Laupahoehoe, Island of Hawaii

*RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education  
Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm*

*Aloha/Sge: no' Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and  
esteemed committee members,*

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because of his commitment to community values and culture centered at the core of educating the next generation of young leaders and educators. His contribution in our collaborations over the years in board leadership positions at a native-led nonprofit, The Cultural Conservancy and a charitable trust, Tamalpais Trust, has shown me his organizational and financial acumen and importantly, his ability to draw upon his vast knowledge to lead and be in service. Whether navigating the Hōkūle'a, sitting in board rooms, or educating others on the land and on the airwaves in the Hawaiian language, his character remains centered in the values that have long guided generations before him to reach those that will follow. Confirming him to the board of education will undoubtedly be a continuation of his work serving the community, youth, and as a fellow colleague and educator, that permeates each consideration, and his impact in this role will continue to serve Hawaiian youth in ways that best serve communities. Range of skills and extensive experience. Having known Kaimana for the last 9 years, I have witnessed his ability to spark a deep sense of learning and growth from those he mentors, to the colleagues and collaborators he works with, all while bringing forth respect, care, and humility as a teacher, navigator, and lifelong learner.

It is both an honor to provide testimony in support of Kaimana's nomination and confirmation as a colleague, educator, mentor and leader.

*Me ka 'oia'i'o, Nya:weh,*

Kaylena Bray, MSc; community member, Seneca Nation of Indians; scholar, Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health; board member, Tamalpais Trust.

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:48:34 AM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alapaki Nahale-a	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair Donna Mercado Kim, and members of the Committee on Education,

I'm writing in strong support of Damien (Kaimana) Barcarse to serve another term on the Board of Education.

I've known Kaimana for several decades and he has always held himself to a high standard of behaviour and excellence. He is a master of many crafts and brings those experiences and skills to bear on everything he does. I've watched his approach on the Board of Education and appreciate that he is always prepared, deliberate in his actions, a strong advocate for our children, understands the complexity of the system while still holding high expectations, and adds meaningfully to the important discussions and debates. Hawaii and the DOE are being served well by his committment to the role.

Thank you for your consdieration and I ask for your support of Kaimana's apointment.

Mahalo, thank you for your service, and have a wonderful day.

Alapaki Nahale-a

MAULILI W. G. DICKSON  
65-1234 Puu Opelu Road  
Kamuela, HI 96743

April 12, 2022

Senate Committee Chair Kidani,  
Vice Chair Mercado Kim  
Committee Members

RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education  
Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2025. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because I have observed Mr. Barcarse in his work as an advocate for education in his work as a delegate through the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, through his dedication and performance in educational programs through the Nā Kālai Wa'a's Makali'i Double-Hulled Canoe presentations in Hawai'i Island Schools and through their voyaging and way-finding programs, his work as a teacher at Ke Kula Nāwahīokalani'opu'u Lab Public Charter School, and mentoring youth in the Ke Aloha 'Āina Hawaiian Civic Club. Mr. Barcarse always strives for the very highest good of the youth he works with and for. It is my strong belief that there is a vital need for such a person as Damien Kaimana Barcarse on Hawai'i Board of Education.

I respectfully ask that your committee support the nomination of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Hawaii Board of Education.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,



MAULILI W. G. DICKSON



**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 1:43:38 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kim L. Kalama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senate Committee on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado-Kim and esteemed committee members,

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of the nomination and confirmation of Damien Kaimana Barcarse to the Board of Education for a term to expire on June 30, 2025. Mr. Barcarse brings with him a professional career in the education, business and community service sectors. All combined, his experience and expertise will serve him well as a member of the Board of Education. Mr. Barcarse is a man of integrity who treats everyone with respect. His humility coupled with his ability to brings hearts and minds together makes him an asset for this Board that must be fierce advocates for the quality education each of our children deserves. My earliest education was through our public education system that provided me with a strong foundation. I am an advocate for our public education institutes as an alumni of the University of Hawai'i Hilo and I know that we are capable of providing educational opportunities that will help our keiki become contributing members of our society. Education is the Key. Mr. Barcarse is the right person for this position and I hope you will agree with me and confirm his nomination.

Mahalo nui loa.

Kim Leolani Kalama

no Kea'au, Puna District, Moku o Keawe

**GM-801**

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 2:59:08 PM

Testimony for EDU on 4/13/2022 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kawehi Hayes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*RE: GM 801 Damien Kaimana Barcarse, nomination to Board of Education*

*Hearing Date 4/13/2022 3:00pm*

*Aloha Senate Committe on Education Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and esteemed committee members,*

*Mahalo for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of Damien Kaimana Barcarse's nomination and confirmation to the Board of Education, for a term to expire 06-30-2022. I believe that Kaimana is the right person for this position because he is familiar with our community and has shown he truly cares about the best interests of our haumāna. Hia background in education and Hawaiian language makes him an appropriate candidate for this position*

*Me ka 'oia 'i 'o,*

*Kawehi Hayes*



WAIWAI COLLECTIVE

**LATE**

April 12, 2022

To: Senate Committee on Education Chair Senator Michelle Kidani and Vice Chair Senator Donna Mercado-Kim and Members of the Senate

Fr: Waiwai Collective

RE: GM801: IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNOR DAVID IGE'S APPOINTMENT OF DAMIEN N. KAIMANAONĀLANI BARCARSE TO THE HAWAII STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Waiwai Collective, a resilience hub based on O'ahu is in full support of Governor David Ige's appointment of Damien N. Kaimanaonālani Barcarse of Hilo, Hawai'i to a second term on the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

As a Native Hawaiian woman owned business, Waiwai Collective's mission is to be Hawai'i's premier values-driven community venue, providing work and event space, educational and cultural programming, entertainment, and a collaborative network of members who want to be a part of a movement for positive change for Hawai'i and beyond. His tenure on the Board and his capacity as a private citizen demonstrates that Mr. Barcarse understands the need for Native Hawaiians to succeed in the public education system. His previous term of three years was marked by integrity, thoughtfulness, and dedication to his important kuleana as a BOE member.

Our network values Board Member Barcarse's deep-rooted Hawaiian knowledge, education experience, and integrity in fulfilling his duties. His experience in Hawaiian education has provided the Board and its chair with deeper insights to evaluate and strengthen Board policies for all learners.

Therefore, Waiwai Collective is in full support of Governor David Ige's appointment of Damien N. Kaimanaonālani Barcarse of Hilo, Hawai'i to the State of Hawai'i Board of Education.

Sincerely,

Mahina Paishon-Duarte  
Waiwai Collective, CEO & Cofounder