



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/02/2023

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 0842 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires the board of education to adopt and the department of education to administer a kindergarten entry assessment in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for Kaiapuni schools. Delays the administration of the kindergarten entry assessment in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for Kaiapuni schools to the 2026-2027 school year.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 842 concerning the adoption and development of a Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni. This bill demonstrates our shared commitment to the provision of a dual-language educational system in Hawai'i, as well as to ensuring that the Kaiapuni schools are equipped with the necessary instruments for effectively teaching and assessing in 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2020, and Act 210, SLH 2021 were the original pieces of legislation that required the provision of a KEA in both English and Hawaiian, underscoring the legislature's commitment to a dual-language educational system. The Department echoes this commitment and believes that in order to ensure that 'ōlelo Hawai'i is provided equal status to English, the Department must invest in the development of high quality curriculum and assessment tools for the Kaiapuni teachers and students. This includes the development of a high quality, developmentally appropriate Kaiapuni KEA in 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

The Department supports the timeline presented in HB 842, with implementation of the

developed Kaiapuni KEA in the fall of 2026. This implementation timeline is necessary to ensure a rigorous development process. In educational assessment, it is critical to conduct a rigorous development process, which includes field testing of developed assessment items, item analysis, and psychometric validation tests. These processes require a multi-year development timeline in order to ensure the rigor, validity, reliability, and overall quality of the Kaiapuni KEA. Due to the unavailability of ready-made assessment instruments in 'ōlelo Hawai'i, it is necessary for the Department to conduct the assessment development process itself.

The Department's intention is to involve all stakeholders in the development of the assessment instrument.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN. M.D.  
GOVERNOR



CATHY K. IKEDA  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION  
(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>  
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

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FOR: HB 842 Relating to Education  
DATE: February 2, 2023  
TIME: 2:00 P.M.  
COMMITTEE: Committee on Education  
ROOM: Conference Room 309 & Videoconference  
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

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Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Martin, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 842 with comments** which requires the Board of Education to develop a Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment to be administered by the Department of Education, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Requires the State Public Charter School Commission to adopt the assessment. Requires a kindergarten entry assessment be administered within ninety days of a child's admission to kindergarten, provided that the child has not received any other kindergarten assessment within the past one hundred eighty days.

The Commission supports this measure to require the development of an appropriate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i for DOE Papahana Kaiapuni and it should not only reflect Hawaiian language education, but should also reflect the language and cultural goals of the Kaiapuni schools. The Commission and the Hawaii Department of Education, Office of Hawaiian Education have encouraged our Hawaiian Immersion schools to participate in the Office of Hawaiian Education’s process for developing this assessment. It is essential that the distinct linguistic, cultural, and educational goals of Hawaiian language immersion education are reflected in and considered foundational in the development and administration of the kindergarten entry assessment. The Commission is deeply grateful to the Department and the Office of Hawaiian Education for including our schools in this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 7:06:00 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kupuna for the Mo'opuna	Kupuna for the Moopuna	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**NO to kindergarten entry assessment for keiki in Kula Kaiapuni!**





**Ka'au Hua, Ka'au Ola**  
'Aha Pūnana Leo 1983-2023  
40 years of progress, a vision for life

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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

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uauu

Pūnana Leo o Waialua

DATE: February 2, 2023  
TIME: 2:00pm  
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309  
HB 842 Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

My name is Ka'iulani Laehā, Chief Executive Officer of the 'Aha Pūnana Leo. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo is the only statewide provider of Hawaiian medium early childhood programs and education. We stand on 40 years of experience in language revitalization and early childhood related programs.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo adamantly opposes HB 842.

The board of education (BOE) approved the Johns Hopkins Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) in October 2022 as required by Act 210. This Act was passed in the 2021 session during the height of the covid pandemic and gave us no time to provide guidance and the research to the legislature on the inappropriate application of a standardized KEA and that directed the board to adopt a KEA "in Hawaiian and English." After adoption of the KEA for English kindergarten classrooms, the board directed the Department of Education (DOE) to provide a plan and timeline to address a KEA for Kaiapuni kindergarteners. The 'Aha Pūnana Leo was invited as a subject matter expert along with other stakeholders by the Office of Hawaiian Education to discuss the KEA in a subsequent meeting in November of 2022.

The consensus after discussions at the stakeholder meeting was that the DOE shall seek to "amend act 210 - permanent exemption from KEA for all Hawaiian language medium and immersion schools"; please refer to the photo below of the working sheet used and reviewed at the November stakeholders meeting.

A draft memo produced by the DOE following the meeting was circulated to the stakeholder group for feedback. The memo clearly stated 7 recommendations that came from the meeting including legislative recommendations supporting "legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA requirement in Act 210 (2021)." However, the stakeholder recommendations listed in the memo were never presented to the BOE. We along with other members of the Hawaiian language medium education community attended the BOE meeting on December 15th and provided testimony in opposition to the DOE recommendation to the BOE. We were appalled by the vast misrepresentation and inaccuracy of the stakeholder input presented to the board by the DOE when it was suggested that no clear amendments were proposed by stakeholders.

At the November stakeholder meeting we discussed and explained that there is no purpose for administering KEA to keiki in Hawaiian language medium programs; whether entering into Kaiapuni schools from a Pūnana Leo or otherwise, these assessments will only produce inconsistent data, wrongfully inform instruction, and misinform parents. Ultimately, requiring KEA for Kaiapuni schools, and for teachers of Kaiapuni schools to be trained on administering an assessment that is inappropriate for Hawaiian immersion programs does not in any way benefit our keiki, kumu, 'ohana or kaiaulu.



The recent BOE action supported the following:

“RECOMMENDATION The Department recommends the development of a Kaiapuni KEA in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i that aligns with the adopted English language KEA, with the addition of a sixth domain to reflect Hawaiian language, culture, and community that are critical to the Kaiapuni educational mission. The Kaiapuni KEA will be administered for Kaiapuni kindergarten students statewide, beginning July 1, 2026. This action would serve as the Board's approval for KEA for Kaiapuni schools and programs.”

**This recommendation approved between \$713,665 - \$1,245,665 to develop an inappropriate KEA for HME, showing a lack of due diligence and negligence with regard to spending on part of the Department of Education since there are already reliable and valid assessments that have been developed by ‘Aha Pūnana Leo and utilized for over a decade in HME early learning settings.**

**HB 842 moves away from the legislative intent for an “entry assessment” regarding kindergarten readiness as the DOE is asking for the KEA for kaiapuni schools to be carried out through November, which is far beyond entry.** This is intentional discrimination on the part of the DOE under the veil of “equity”.

During the October Early Learning Board (ELB) the DOE early learning specialist informed the ELB members about the KEA tool selected for the English medium schools, the Johns Hopkins University Kindergarten Readiness Assessment. The selection process included heavy consideration for the common and best practices in place in current early learning programs. Since the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo is the only statewide early learning Hawaiian language medium program, we are the only entity equipped to inform an assessment for Hawaiian language medium early learners. We have also supported the development of Hawai‘i’s early learning and development standards for Hawaiian language medium. Please consider our expertise to fully understand the weight of our testimony.

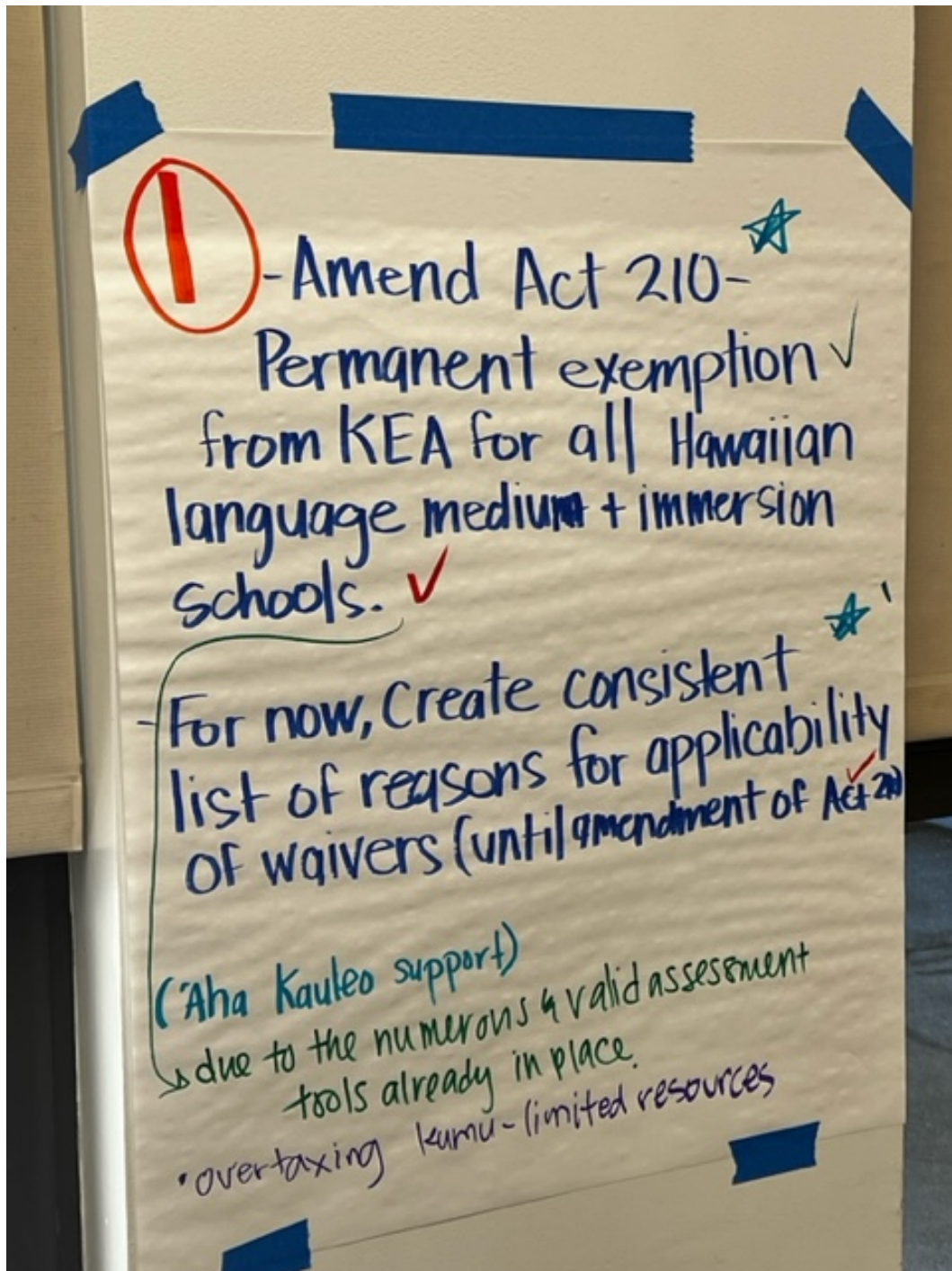
In addition, please note that the DOE must comply with HRS 302H-7 requiring the following:

“The Department of Education shall work collaboratively with the Hawaiian language college of the University of Hawaii at Hilo and any other entities recognized by the legislature for the purpose of addressing Hawaiian language medium education, extending to those entities support for inclusion in the special provisions for children and families enrolled in the Hawaiian language medium education program of the department and maximizing the joint use of existing and new resources to meet the goal of revitalizing, maintaining, and strengthening the Hawaiian language.”

It is my understanding that in the process of planning its KEA recommendation the DOE did not collaborate with the Hawaiian language college and its laboratory school listed in HRS 302H-7 and established in HRS 304A-1302.

Finally I’d like to confirm that the evaluations currently utilized by the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo meet the requirements of HRS 302A-1165 (5) and have been confirmed as valid and reliable for its intended purpose by the US Department of Education. The evaluations also meet the purpose for which the state legislature in its Standing Committee Report 469 to Act 210 that clarifies “a uniform assessment of kindergarten readiness will be used to support the readiness and learning of all students entering kindergarten in public schools and charter schools across the state”.

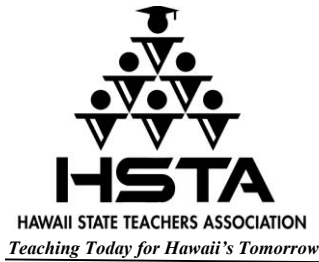
Working document from November 1, 2022 Stakeholder meeting:



Mahalo,

Ka'iulani Laehā

Ka'iulani Laehā,  
'Aha Pūnana Leo, Inc.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

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Executive Director

## TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

RE: HB 842 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association is **providing comments** on **HB 842**, relating to education. This bill requires the Board of Education to develop a Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment to be administered by the Department of Education, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, requires the State Public Charter School Commission to adopt the assessment, and requires a kindergarten entry assessment be administered within ninety days of a child's admission to kindergarten, provided that the child has not received any other kindergarten assessment within the past one hundred eighty days.

**We have noticed the next bill on this hearing agenda, HB962 exempts Hawaiian Immersion (Kaiapuni Schools) schools from this Kindergarten Entry Assessment, and we support their exemption, instead of just a delay.**

We also want to point out that although the Board of Education would be the body to approve this assessment, it would be the Department of Education (DOE) who would develop a Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment. Also, **if this assessment is only delayed in our Hawaiian Immersion schools (Kaiapuni Schools), then we also strongly urge the DOE to consult our Hawaiian Immersion public schools, including Hawaiian Immersion public charter schools, and their teachers, for their valuable input as to whom should develop this assessment.** It is not only important to consider 'ōlelo Hawai'i, when developing this assessment, but also the Hawaiian culture in the implementation of such an assessment to ensure the relevance of such an assessment for our keiki in our Hawaiian Immersion schools.

**The Hawaii State Teachers Association thanks you for considering our comments on this bill.**





## *Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u*

*"No 'Ane'i Ko Kākou Ola"*

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: 02-2-2023  
Time: 2:00pm  
Location: Conference Room 309

Testimony of Dr. Kauanoe Kamanā, Director, Principal  
Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u

HB842, RELATING TO EDUCATION  
**STRONGLY OPPOSE**

E ka Luna Ho'omalū Woodson, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalū Marten a me nā lālā Kōmike  
Ho'ona'auao, Aloha pumehana kākou,

My name is Dr. Kauanoe Kamanā, Director and Principal of Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u (Nāwahī), a P-12 laboratory school of the Hawaiian Language College, Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani (KH'UOK) at UH-Hilo. Nāwahī has a current enrollment of 646 in its Kea'au campus and two satellite sites in Waimea and Wai'anae. As a Hawaiian language medium school, families choose Nāwahī for its integrity, research history and a nearly 30-year reputation of providing quality education rooted in the Kumu Honua Mauli Ola philosophy and in the use and study of the Hawaiian language.

Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u (Nāwahī) **strongly opposes HB842.**

I was invited to give a brief presentation on Nāwahī assessments at the the Office of Hawaiian Education's (OHE) Kaiapuni Stakeholders meeting on the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) on November 1, 2022. I focused on Nāwahī's use of 'Aha Pūnana Leo curriculum-based measures (CBM)<sup>1</sup> for over 20 years, and informed the stakeholders of Nāwahī's intent and rationale for opposing Act 210.

Overall stakeholder input and recommendations for next steps included a statement that the DOE should seek legislative action to amend Act 210 for a permanent exemption from KEA requirement for all Hawaiian medium and immersion schools. (See attachment below)

I was shocked that there was no mention by OHE of the stakeholder's request for permanent exemption from KEA or of the rationale relative to that request in its testimony before the

Board of Education on December 15, 2022. This was especially disturbing since Chairperson Voss asked if OHE thought its standing recommendation was “pono”, and still nothing was said regarding the exemption from KEA as an agreed upon next step documented at the stakeholders meeting .

HRS 304-A-1302 requires that the DOE collaborate with the Hawaiian Language College and its laboratory school listed in HRS 302H-7, that being Ke Kula ‘O Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u. Prior to my invitation to the stakeholders meeting on November 1st, Nāwahī was not sought out to collaborate and provide expertise on Hawaiian language medium education and assessments. We were not given the opportunity to advise early on in the process, and subsequently called upon after much of the discussion and decision-making had taken place.

Nāwahī is opposed to spending excessive amounts of money on an effort that will work against the fundamental mission and vision of Nāwahī education as a Hawaiian language medium P-13 pathway. The KEA will create inaccurate data, misinform families and misalign with the strategies for success that we’ve experienced over the past 30 years.

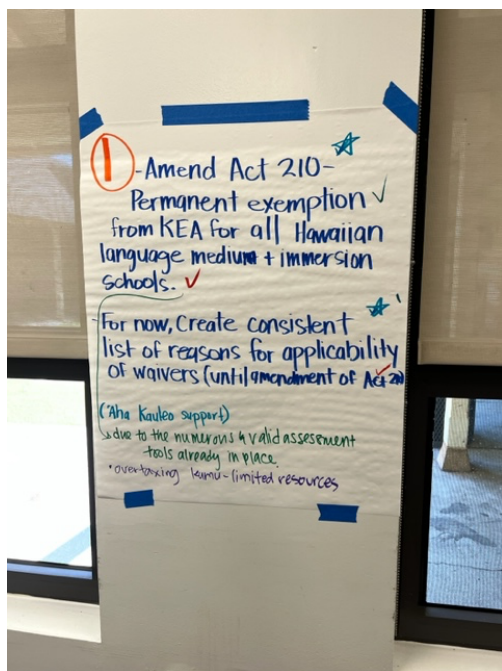
English language centered mindsets will fail to produce quality data that supports Hawaiian language medium efforts in education. The KEA will fail to provide the kind of data that will best serve the children, families and teachers of Hawaiian Language schools.

Me ka mahalo ‘oia‘i‘o,



Dr. Kauanoë Kamanā  
Director, Principal

<sup>1</sup>Journal of American Indian Education Vol. 50: (Issue1) pgs. 80-82





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### Ka Papa Alaka'i

Dr. Kēhaulani  
'Aipia-Peters,  
Pelekikena

Kēhaulani Shintani,  
Hope Pelekikena

Kākau 'Ōlelo

Leilani Ka'apuni,  
Pu'ukū

Kamalei Hayes

Dr. Kauanoe  
Kamanā

Nāmaka Rawlins

Dr. Pila Wilson

Kyla Manzano

Kayla Ahsing

No 'Ane'i Ko  
Kākou Ola!

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: 02-02-2023  
Time: 2:00pm  
Location: Conference Room 309

Testimony of Dr. Kēhaulani 'Aipia-Peters, Governing Board Chair  
Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki LPCS

### HB 842, RELATING TO EDUCATION **STRONGLY OPPOSE**

E nā Po'o Kōmike a me nā Lālā Kōmike o ka Ho'ona'auao, aloha nui kākou

My name is Dr. Kēhaulani 'Aipia-Peters, and I am the Governing Board Chair of Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, Laboratory Public Charter School. I am providing written testimony in **STRONG OPPOSITION** of HB 842.

We, the governing board of Nāwahī, **STRONGLY OBJECT** to HB 842 that requires the Board of Education to develop a Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment to be administered by the Department of Education, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

Let it be noted that on October 6th, 2022, in the first recommendation of the DOE on the KEA issue, there was no indication of any research by the DOE into the existence of a Hawaiian Language Medium assessment that complied with HRS 302A-1165. On November 1st, a gathering of stakeholders was called at which Nāwahī made a short presentation informing the Department that our school is successfully implementing the 'Aha Pūnana Leo's Hawaiian Language Medium assessment which meets the requirements of HRS 302A-1165. We have benefitted from this valid and reliable assessment over the past 20 years and have collected longitudinal data on outcomes relative to the purposes of the previously stated law including: 1) closing the school readiness gap, 2) informing instruction in the early elementary grades, and 3) informing parents. Additionally, at the Board of Education meeting on December 15, 2022, Nāwahī submitted written and oral testimony urging the Board of Education to delay the decision on the Hawaiian Medium KEA and further investigate alternative options to meet compliance requirements of HRS 302A-1165.

We are opposed to spending exorbitant amounts of money on a Hawaiian Language Medium Assessment that is designed to align with the Johns Hopkins English Language Medium Assessment and in effect produce misleading data and ultimately will fail to provide the information that will best serve the children, families and staff of Hawaiian Language schools. An assessment of this nature will only add to the negative impact of English medium education laws and policies on Hawaiian Medium Education.

Mahalo,

*Ke. Kēhaulani Aipia-Peters*

Dr. Kēhaulani 'Aipia-Peters  
Chair, Governing Board  
Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki LPCS



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**Pūnana Leo Programs**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa ‘Ōlwi**

**Kula Kamali‘i**

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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

Pūnana Leo o Nu‘uanu

Pūnana Leo o Waialeale

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

‘O wau ‘o **‘Iwa Kuamoo**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o Hilo, a **Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **41** keiki and service over **180** family members annually and currently employ seven staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their ‘ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,

**‘Iwa Kuamoo**

Site Director

**Pūnana Leo o Hilo**

E O I a K a ‘ Ō l e l o H a w a i i





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Pūnana Leo o Waialua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Maluhia O'Donnell**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Waimea, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **24** keiki and service over **80** family members annually and currently employ four staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,

**Maluhia O'Donnell**

Site Director

**Pūnana Leo o Waimea**

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Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waimea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Piko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uānu

Pūnana Leo o Waialua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Akelina Tibayan**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Kona, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **24** keiki and service over **90** family members annually and currently employ three staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Akelina Tibayan**  
Site Director  
**Pūnana Leo o Kona**

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i i



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**Ka Papa Alaka'i**  
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Kauanoë Kamanā  
Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers  
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Trina Ishikawa**, I am the Kahu (site coordinator) at the Pūnana Leo o **Maui, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **30** keiki and service over **120** family members annually and currently employ ten staff members.

**Ka Luna Ho'okele**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Ka'iulani J.K.N. Laehā

**Ka Luna Ho'okō**  
**Chief Operating Officer**

K. Sean Kekina

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

**Nā Papahana**  
**Pūnana Leo**

**Pūnana Leo Programs**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa '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'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

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uānu

Pūnana Leo o Waialua

Mahalo nui loa,

**Trina Ishikawa**

Site Coordinator

**Pūnana Leo o Maui**

E O I a K a ' Ō I e l o H a w a i i





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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**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa 'Ōlwi**

**Kula Kamali'i**

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i

Pūnana Leo o Maui

Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i

Pūnana Leo o Waī'anae

Pūnana Leo o Kona

Pūnana Leo o Waīmea

Pūnana Leo o Mānoa

Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uanu

Pūnana Leo o Waiālua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Karyn Kanekoa**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Lahaina, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **23** keiki and service over **90** family members annually and currently employ five staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Karyn Kanekoa**

Site Director

**Pūnana Leo o Lahaina**

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Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Kī'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Maleka Tolentino**, I am the Kumu Alaka'i (Lead Teacher) at the Pūnana Leo o Hāna, a **Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **24** keiki and service over **70** family members annually and currently employ two staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Maleka Tolentino**  
Lead Teacher  
**Pūnana Leo o Hāna**

**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**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa 'Ōlwi**

**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'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

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uanu

Pūnana Leo o Waiāluā

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Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers  
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond

Keawe Lopes

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **U'ilani Ramos**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Moloka'i, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **24** keiki and service over **50** family members annually and currently employ three staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**U'ilani Ramos**  
Site Director  
**Pūnana Leo o Moloka'i**

**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**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa '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'anāe

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

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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**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa 'Ōiwi**

**Kula Kamall'i**

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

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

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uuanu

Pūnana Leo o Waiālua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Kahōkū Lindsey-Asing**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Mānoa**, a **Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **25** keiki and service over **115** family members annually and currently employ five staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Kahōkū Lindsey-Asing**  
Site Director  
**Pūnana Leo o Mānoa**

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**Board of Directors**

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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**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa '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'anāe  
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 Waiālua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Leimomi Soliai**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Nu'uānu, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **39** keiki and service over **130** family members annually and currently employ six staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Leimomi Soliai**  
Site Director  
**Pūnana Leo o Nu'uānu**

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i





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**Board of Directors**

Kauanoë Kamanā  
*Pelekikena*

'Alohilani Rogers  
*Kākau'Ōlelo*

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

KT'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**

**Aukukul**

**Hale Kipa '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'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  
Pūnana Leo o Nu'uānu  
Pūnana Leo o Waiālua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Ka'ipo Maika'i-Kahana'oi**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Ko'olau Poko**, a **Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **49** keiki and service over **100** family members annually and currently employ five staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,

**Ka'ipo Maika'i-Kahana'oi**

Site Director

**Pūnana Leo o Ko'olau Poko**

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



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*Board of Directors*

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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 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 Piko

Pūnana Leo o Lahaina

Pūnana Leo o Hāna

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uanu

Pūnana Leo o Waialua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Kamaha'o Kaai**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Wai'anae**, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program. We are licensed for **40** keiki and service over **90** family members annually and currently employ six staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,

**Kamaha'o Kaai**

Site Director

**Pūnana Leo o Wai'anae**

E O I a K a ' Ō I e l o H a w a i i



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*Board of Directors*

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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 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

Pūnana Leo o Nu'uanu

Pūnana Leo o Waialua

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Keikiokanani Aldridge**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Waialua**, a **Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **24** keiki and service over **60** family members annually and currently employ four staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,  
**Keikiokanani Aldridge**  
Site Director  
**Pūnana Leo o Waialua**

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i



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*Pelekikena*

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*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 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 Ka'alaui Piko  
Pūnana Leo o Lahaina  
Pūnana Leo o Hāna  
Pūnana Leo o Nu'uuanu  
Pūnana Leo o Wai'alu

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 842 Relating to Education

**OPPOSE HB 842**

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

'O wau 'o **Waialoa Fernandes**, I am the Kahu (site director) at the Pūnana Leo o **Kaua'i, a Hawaiian medium center-based child care program**. We are licensed for **36** keiki and service over **160** family members annually and currently employ six staff members.

We strongly oppose HB 842.

This bill does not support our keiki or their 'ohana during the transition to kindergarten, nor will it meet the legislative intent of Act 210. HB 842 is based on inaccurate information regarding a lack of appropriate assessments.

We need legislative action for a permanent exemption from the KEA assessment requirement in Act 210, as proposed in HB 962, being heard today.

We are humbly submitting our opposition to HB 842.

Mahalo nui loa,

**Waialoa Fernandes**

Site Director

**Pūnana Leo o Kaua'i**

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i





**Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau**  
Laboratory Public Charter School

46-500 Kūneki St. Kāne'ohe, Hawai'i 96744 \*Kelepona: 808.235.9175 \*Kelepa'i: 808.235.9173  
E mālama 'ia ana ka mauili ola o kākou mai kēlā hanauna a i kēia hanauna.

Pepeluali 1, 2023

Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair  
House Education Committee Members  
Date of Hearing: 02-02-2023  
Time: 2:00pm  
Location: Conference Room 309

**Relating to HB842 RELATING TO EDUCATION.**

Requires the board of education to adopt and the department of education to administer a kindergarten entry assessment in 'Olelo Hawai'i for Kaiapuni schools. Delays the administration of the kindergarten entry assessment in 'Olelo Hawai'i for Kaiapuni schools to the 2026-2027 school year.

**STRONGLY OPPOSE**

Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, Laboratory Public Charter School is an 'ohana-based, Hawaiian language medium school offering a comprehensive multi-level (PK through Secondary) educational program in Ha'ikū, He'eia, Ko'olaupoko, O'ahu.

Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau STRONGLY OPPOSES HB842

There are inherent flaws with creating a statewide kindergarten entry assessment aligned to a western developed tool and especially for students who are first year language learners. This would immediately question the validity and reliability of the results of such an assessment when compared to the results garnered from the kindergarten English learner classrooms across the state.

Mahalo nui for this time to share our mana'o,  
Me ka ha'aha'a,

P. Kameha'ililani Waiiau  
Hope Kahu/Principal, Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 9:34:46 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Evan Laeha	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly oppose this bill. This legislation was put forward with a vast misrepresentation of stakeholder input. I encourage the committee to seek the answer to this question: How would a KEA given to children up to 90 days after they start kindergarten assess what they learned prior to kindergarten entry?

Second, I ask that this committee critically think about how a KEA will support a program in which the majority of participating children have not yet acquired the language of instruction.

Lastly, I ask the committee to think about how the \$1M could be spent on more worthy investments in the kaiapuni system rather than on an assessment that, regardless of design, will not achieve its legislative intent for kaiapuni schools.

Mahalo,

Evan Laeha

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 6:30:11 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gillen Neff	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I clearly understand HB842 and OPPOSE the bill.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair

Rep. Lisa Marten, Vice Chair

Date: Thursday, February 2, 2023

Time: 2:00 pm

Place: Room 309

HB 842 - RELATING TO EDUCATION. - **OPPOSE**

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee on Education -

My name is Nāko‘olani Warrington. I am a retired kumu having taught Ke Kula Kaiapuni papa mālaa‘o (kindergarten) and papa 2 & 3 (grades 2 & 3) for most of my 20 years as a classroom teacher. I thank the Legislature for its continued support of Hawai‘i’s constitutional provision of ensuring two pathways of learning, English and Hawaiian. The Hawaiian pathway of learning must continue to be protected and for this reason, **I oppose HB 842 which proposes to base the validity and reliability of an assessment tested through a language different from the language of instruction.**

HB 842 reads, in part: *Information obtained from the Hawaiian language medium education kindergarten entry assessments shall be used to:*

- 1.) *Close the school readiness gap at kindergarten entry;*
- 2.) *Inform instruction in the early elementary school grades; and*
- 3.) *Inform parents of their children’s status and to involve parents in decisions regarding their children’s education.*

HB 842’s Hawaiian language medium education kindergarten entry assessment...

- will not “close the school readiness gap.” An invalid and unreliable assessment cannot determine who, what, when, where, why the gap exists nor can it provide a “how to close the gap.” I have no further comment on #1.
- will not “inform instruction in the early elementary school grades.” I know an invalid and unreliable assessment would not have informed instruction in my early elementary classrooms. And an assessment producing invalid and unreliable “information” could easily be manipulated and misinterpreted thereby undermining the goal of a comprehensive and solid educational experience through ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.
- will not “inform parents of their children’s status and involve parents in decisions regarding their children’s education.” Rather, the assessment would be a thinly veiled attempt to plant the seeds of doubt and fear in parents. It is a terrible injustice to the children, the parents, and Ke Kula Kaiapuni.



Representatives, I propose the funds to develop a Hawaiian language medium education kindergarten entry assessment be used instead to provide Ke Kula Kaiapuni the following to gather invaluable information for purposes #2 and #3 above:

\* a teacher's aide to allow more direct 'ōlelo Hawai'i adult speakers per child and more opportunities to dialogue with/explain to visiting parents during instructional time what is taking place so parents can determine for themselves their children's status ...

\* an 'ōlelo Hawai'i resource person to teach evening language classes for parents so that involved parents can assist children with homework, provide feedback to kumu on instruction, and support children's learning ...

\* a special education afterschool tutor to support special needs children to help inform instruction so all can learn in a self-contained setting ...

\* a summer school teacher to help children retain learning, paying particular attention to early elementary school grades.

There are many more ways to support and inform Ke Kula Kaiapuni instruction and Ke Kula Kaiapuni parents. HB 842 is not one of those ways. **Please do not pass HB 842.**

Mahalo nui loa,  
Nāko'olani Warrington  
Pana'ewa, Hawai'i

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:05:53 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patricia K Kanakaole	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a grandmother of a Hawaiian Medium Education Kindergarten student at Ke Kula ‘O Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u in Kea‘au and I do not support this measure. Mahalo.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:07:27 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wolfgang Rehmert	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Ke hō'ike nei au i ka'u kāko'o 'ole i ia pila. Loa'a iā kākou nā hō'ike e pono ai kā kākou papahana, 'a'ole e 'ae i ka hihia ma ka huikau o ka po'e ma'a i ka hahai i ke ala 'ōlelo Pelekānia wale nō.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:14:38 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kahiau Snyder	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kū‘ē loa au i kēia pila HB842. I strongly oppose HB842. Mahalo.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:16:08 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Raylene Moses	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is no true benefit to come of a test based on the English language and its perspectives.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:16:14 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
kaleo kama'i	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kū'ē

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:17:40 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tori Valdez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

He hana hewa kēia.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:18:02 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tomoko Skinner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I appose this bill



**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:18:45 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melissa Akoni	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

‘A‘ole loa wau kākō‘o i kēia pila e loiloi i nā haumāna ‘Ōlelo Hawaii me kekahi loiloi/hō‘ike i ho‘omohala ‘ia ma ke kuana‘ike a ka ‘ōlelo Haole.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:22:29 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tanya Kua	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY OBJECT to HB842

Mahalo

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:24:06 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kahaliilani Sukanuma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Though tempted I won't go on a rant villainizing the US government for the historical inhibiting of native peopless cultures. By forcibly subjecting our keiki to take a test that is based off an alien culture and language (or at the least one which they have not been taught in), we are setting them up for failure. It is not fair or right to test them in English ideals when they do not have the necessary experience in them.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:24:55 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanoë Wilson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Education Committee,

My name is Kanoë Wilson, a makua of a child attending Ke Kula Nawahī‘okalani‘ōpu‘u. I am writing in opposition of HB842. Hawaiian language assessments should be developed by experts in the Hawaiian language and given the Hawaiian language movement has been in existence for 40 years we have a strong population of Native speakers with the knowledge and expertise to create our own state assessment.

Mahalo for your time,

Kanoë Wilson

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:25:58 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shanna De Lima-Suganuma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This will not be to the benefit of the keiki entering into the Hawaiian immersion program who will be forced to take an English-perspective based entry assessment. The National standardized tests cannot be translated for children of any native speaking culture. These tests are designed to pigeonhole children and categorize them, it does not take into account the level of their emotional intellect, compassion or knowledge outside of a classroom type environment. Standardized tests only stand to benefit the funding sources of schools whose students score well. Based on the above, I oppose HB842.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:27:10 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawehionapua	Ke Kula O Nawahioakalaniopuu	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Iā ‘oukou e nā ‘elele o ka ‘Aha‘ōleo a me ka ‘Oihana Ho‘ona‘auao o Hawai‘i,

Eia wau ‘o Kawehi Keolanui me ke KŪ‘Ē aku i ka pila HB842 no ka mea ua ho‘opa‘a mua ‘ia he hō‘ike paekomo no kā mākou papahana. "‘Oiai ua loa‘a mua kā kākou mau hō‘ike ma ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i e pono ai nā keiki e komo ana ma Nāwahī, a ‘oiai ho‘i ‘a‘ohe hua ‘oia‘i‘o e loa‘a mai ana ke ho‘omohala ‘ia ma luna o ke kuana‘ike ‘ōlelo Pelekānia."

Me kēia mana‘o, ‘a‘ole loa wau kākou i ka ho‘opohō manawa a me ka lā‘ī ma luna o ka ho‘omohala hou ‘ana i kahi hō‘ike no kā mākou mau pua e ‘imi ana i ka hō‘ola ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.

"Ke Kula ‘O Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u and the Governing Board have already submitted opposition to the intent of this bill. Nāwahī already has testing in Hawaiian that serves children entering Nāwahī, and we foresee no true benefit to come of a test based on the English language and its perspectives."

na‘u me ke KŪ‘Ē,

na Kawehi Keolanui

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:31:03 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elijah Iversen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:39:34 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erin Drayer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in opposition of this bill. Nawahi has valid and reliable test instruments to be utilized.

Thank you,

Erin



**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:39:44 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brandy De Lima-Suganuma	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Translating a standardized English-perspective assessment into the Hawaiian language will not benefit any of the students that will be required to take it. This is a practice that has been subjected to native people for generations - remove their culture and interests, then "Americanize" it, but write it in their language to make it politically correct. As such, I oppose this bill, HB842, as there are already valid and reliable testing instruments in place for children who participate in the 'Ōlelo Hawai'i immersion programs which take into account the cultural perspectives.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:45:33 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julaine Keamo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Hawaiian medium school in which I teach already has testing in Hawaiian that serves our student population, and we foresee no true benefit to come of a test based on the English language and its perspectives. The Board of Education approved the DOE's recommendation to create a test of no benefit to our students, families and teachers that will cost between \$700K and \$1.2 million.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:50:06 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joslyn Gibbs	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Nāwahī charter school has valid and reliable test instruments, and will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:50:09 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

HB 842 RELATING TO EDUCATION  
OPPOSE

Welina mai me ke aloha,

My name is Aiko Lepeka English, and I am a makua of children attending a Hawaiian Medium Education (HME), I am a kumu at a Hawaiian Medium Education and I am a product of the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program (HLIP). I am providing my written testimony in OPPOSITION of SB 842.

I object to SB 842 that requires the Board of Education to develop a Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment to be administered by the Department of Education, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

As a product of the HLIP and a current kumu of the (HME) programs, I see no benefit in creating an assessment for our students that is aligned with the John Hopkins English Language Medium Assessment as it will NOT produce accurate data that will set our students up for success as our keiki's are taught in a Hawaiian Language and its perspective. Our kula has a valid and reliable test instruments, and will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making.

Na'u nō,

Aiko Lepeka English

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:56:33 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Namaka Rawlins	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

My mo‘opuna attend kula ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i. I strongly oppose HB842. Along with nearly 100 others we testified in opposition to a similar bill SB481 heard before the senate on Monday, January 30th. That bill was deferred.

There are greater needs for kaiapuni support than HB842. Please do not pass this bill.

HB842 seeks that the DOE be solely in compliance with Act 210. In an attempt to be compliant HB842 creates a discriminatory practice of a kaiapuni Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) well beyond the period of kindergarten entry by a few months.

Resources for a KEA should be deployed to those kindergarten classrooms for an educational assistant as in its own testimony before the board of education, the DOE acknowledged that the majority of the approximately 400 keiki enrolling in papa mālaa‘o (immersion public charter and doe kindergarten) do not ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.

Please do not pass HB842.

Mahalo nui

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:56:44 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kawailele Aki	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kū‘ē kēia HB842!

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:09:41 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erin ODonnell	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB842 as it will not provide any benefit to our students and schools and will cost nearly \$1mill to taxpayers. Please stop the madness.



**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:35:10 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dana K. Hayashida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

As a parent of children that are currently/have been in the Papahana Kaiapuni, I oppose HB842. A test that is based on the English language and its perspectives does not properly assess children entering the Papahana Kaiapuni. I do not see the true benefit of having our keikis entering kindergarten in the papahana participate in this assessment.

Mahalo nui, ka 'Ohana Hayashida

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:57:18 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Isaac Ahuna	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly and firmly oppose HB842 that requires the board of education to adopt and the department of education to administer a kindergarten entry assessment in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i for Kaiapuni schools. Should this bill pass, it will adversely impact and disproportionately reflect the ability(ies) of our keiki entering Papa Mālaa‘o (Kindergarten). It must be recognized that the vast majority of children entering Kindergarten programs at Kaiapuni schools will be their first instance in a Hawaiian Language program, not having any former formal preparation for schooling in the medium of the Hawaiian Language in comparison to the few who are able to attend the Pūnana Leo preschool program. While it can be certain that a majority of Pūnana Leo graduates would meet or exceed the standards of any assessment administered, the majority of their peers who were not able to attend such a program at the PreK level would not, and therefore, a skewed and disproportionate result would be witnessed.

E ola mau ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:15:14 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Larry Kimura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit my objection to HB482. I object to the the Hawai'i Board of Education's inattention to the exceptionally high Hawaiian language literacy rate of the 5 year old graduates of Hawai'i's Hawaiian medium preschool education conducted by Hawai'i's 'Aha Pūnana Leo. The current one size fits all approach of the DOE in conducting one literacy test for English speakers debases the literacy skills of 'Ahahui Pūnana Leo's Hawaiian medium early education children. This is an injustice to Hawaiian as one of Hawai'i's official languages and demonstrates Hawai'i's lack of awareness to pursue and maintain high standards for the DOE Kaiapuni Hawaiian Immersion Program now in its 36th year of operation. It is high time for the DOE to investigate the major advancements being made in Hawaiian language literacy of the early childhood education 'Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian medium schools now in its 40th year of operation.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:40:49 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Laura Raye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I am the parent of two children that are enrolled in a Hawaiian Medium/Language Charter school and I oppose this bill.

Mahalo,

Laura Rehmert

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:50:07 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Malia Williams	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. My name is Malia Williams. I have 2 keiki in Hawaiian Language Medium pathway and **strongly oppose** HB842. Similar to the experts in the field, I believe this is an injustice to my keiki and urge the legislature to stop the bill.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:10:29 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Moke	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives. Aloha 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Month

I am opposed to HB842 which will unfairly assess my mo'opuna in a language he has no experience in. My mo'opuna must be given the right to a wonderful education in 'ōlelo Hawai'i starting off on the right foot. HB842 is kinda like starting on the left foot and not maika'i.

Please do not pass HB842.

Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i!

Mahalo

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:11:07 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Monica Laa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Monica La'a,

I am opposing bill HB842 because I feel like the standardize assesment does not work for everyone. You cannot base an assesment on a Hawaiian language speaking child based on the English language. English perspective will destroy the actual Hawaiian language spoken at home and later destroy Hawaiian perspective.



*Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u*

**1 Pepeluali, 2023**

Testimony of Ha'amauliola Aiona  
Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki  
SB 482, RELATING TO EDUCATION  
STRONGLY OPPOSE

E nā Po'o Kōmike a me nā Lālā Kōmike o ka Ho'ona'auao,

My name is Ha'amauliola Aiona , and I am the Student/Parent/Teacher Collaboration Board Coordinator, the President of Ka Ho'olako, our Parent Enrichment Fundraising Committee, and a secondary teacher of Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, Laboratory Public Charter School. **I am providing written testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION of SB 482.**

I, on behalf of the the 'Uo Mamo, Ka Ho'olako, and myself as a teacher of Nāwahī for the past 20 years, STRONGLY OBJECT to SB 482. Legislators are presently writing this bill that will require the Department of Education (DOE) to create a standardized assessment in Hawaiian for children entering Kindergarten. The Hawaiian language test will align with the English language kindergarten entry assessment developed by Johns Hopkins University which is not of the best interest of our children being schooled, taught, and immersed in the Hawaiian language and perspective. We, Nāwahī, already have testing in Hawaiian that serves children entering Nāwahī, and we foresee no true benefit to come of a test based on the English language and its perspectives.

I am opposed to spending exorbitant amounts of money on a Hawaiian Language Medium Assessment that is designed to align with the Johns Hopkins English Language Medium Assessment and in effect produce misleading data and ultimately will fail to provide the information that will best serve the children, families and staff of Hawaiian Language schools. An assessment of this nature will only add to the negative impact of English medium education laws and policies on Hawaiian Medium Education.

Mahalo nui loa,

Ha'amauliola Aiona

([haa@nawahi.org](mailto:haa@nawahi.org))

Alaka'i 'Uo Mamo - Student/Parent/Teacher Collaboration Board Coordinator

Pelekikena Ka Ho'olako - President of Parent Enrichment Fundraising Committee

Kumu Kula Ki'eki'e - Secondary Teacher





TO: EDN Committee  
FROM: Kananinohea Māka'imoku Date: February 1, 2023  
**RE: HB 842 Relating to Education**

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00 pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

**IN STRONG OPPOSITION of HB 842**

Aloha e Chairman Woodson and Vice Chair Marten and members of the committee,

My name is Kananinohea Māka'imoku. I have 37 years of experience in Hawaiian medium and immersion education as a graduate and product of P-25 Hawaiian medium education, a former Hawaiian medium classroom teacher, and currently as a parent and Hawaiian language medium-immersion teacher trainer as the Program Coordinator for Kahuawaiola Indigenous Teacher Education Program and Assistant Professor at the College of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I write in **strong opposition to HB 842**.

The use of a test developed for English should not be applied for use in Hawaiian as standard practice for assessment and evaluation. Adding an additional domain for language and culture to the Johns Hopkins Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA), as outlined in the DOE's plan, requires more discussion and clarity in the development and usage, access, and other issues that may impact its programs. In the past, data collected by tools developed for mainstream English medium programs have been unreliable and invalid. Often the data shared is measured alongside English mainstream schools, which is a further misalignment. Such practices are detrimental to the program's success. They have planted fear and doubt in students, families, and communities.

The cost of \$713,665 - \$1,245,665 is negligent when there are already reliable and valid assessments for 'ōlelo Hawai'i. In addition, these funds could be used in other critical shortage areas in Hawaiian medium education that have long stood, such as curriculum, teacher development, and teacher recruitment and retention. Therefore, fully developing and supporting those areas makes more sense before creating an assessment. Without equitable support in those essential areas, the evaluation is unwarranted.

The Hawaiian medium and immersion schools have been a successful strategy in revitalizing 'ōlelo Hawai'i. Yet, 'ōlelo Hawai'i is still an endangered language which therefore requires us to thoroughly examine the implications and repercussions HB 842 has on the language's vitality through impacting our schools. We need more time for discussion and determination of the proper path.



**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:19:58 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Justin "Kalani" Stoleson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

While seemingly well-intentioned, this legislation fails to account for the situation of a significant portion, a majority even, of kindergarten-aged students who are entering school without any level of fluency or comprehension of ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, and as such the legislation fails to account for the current state of ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i and of Hawaiian Language revitalization in general. We are still in a position where children are entering immersion at the Kindergarten level in order to acquire the Hawaiian language, and thus the bill actually does a disservice to the aforementioned children and to the health and progress of the Hawaiian language. As such, I voice my opposition to HB 842.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:31:17 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Reitchel Boyd	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose HB842

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:45:12 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Matson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

As a mā mā of 2 keiki in Hawaiian language immersion kula I strongly oppose HB842. After following the testimony on SB481 (which I also opposed), I gained a lot of insight on this topic. The spokespeople in favor of a standardized assessment were unable to clearly articulate exactly what the point of this data collection was. I still don't understand testing for the sake of testing, especially at the kindergarten level. They are all entering school at such a varied ability level, what is the point of testing them? Let's focus our time and money on supporting Universal Preschool instead so all keiki are entering Kindergarten from a more even playing field.

Also I want freedom for myself and ALL 'ohana in Hawai'i to enter their keiki into a Hawaiian Language Medium pathway education at ANY POINT in their learning and to reduce the stigma of Hawaiian Immersion school as inferior in any way. I will testify strongly against any bills that appear to take away that opportunity from my keiki or others. I've seen many keiki enter this school at any point in their kindergarten year or even beyond and THRIVE. Also, ENGLISH translated testing should have no place in Hawaiian Language schools, period. It does nothing for anyone, but create confusion and headaches. It's not and never can be an accurate calculation of the type of learning that occurs in these schools, which, myself as a product of an English Public School in Hawai'i, I can attest that the schooling my keiki are receiving is FAR SUPERIOR to anything I've seen in any of the English based language schools. Assessments at this level should be at the discretion of the kumu, makua, and keiki. No need involve more testing and bureaucracy into our education system.

Mahalo,

Shannon Matson

Hawai'i Island Resident

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:46:01 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lela Kalama	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I strongly OPPOSE HB842. A translated test from English to Hawaiian will not make sense to a Hawaiian speaker. Not to mention at least half of the kids who enter the Hawaiian immersion program have zero experience in the Hawaiian language. To give them a test within the first 30 or 90 days is setting them up to fail and will discourage the Keiki's parents. This test is also not necessary as schools like Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u already have an assessment in place that is working. This would be a total waste of money and actually hurt instead of help the Hawaiian immersion program. Please do NOT pass this bill.

mahalo nui,

Na Lela Kalama

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:49:14 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
C.R.P. Montague-Mullins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB842. There are testings currently available that have been researched and developed by Hawaiian language educators that are valid and reliable. All testing in the Hawaiian language to be used to assess Hawaiian language education has to be based on Hawaiian perspective.



**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:21:17 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Aluanu Germano	Ka Umeke Kaeo	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui,

‘O Aluanu ko‘u inoa. He hō‘oia kēia i ko‘u kāko‘o ‘ole i ka pila HB842, ma muli ho‘i o ka waiwai ‘ole o kēia hō‘ike no nā hāumāna kaiapuni.

*My name is Aluanu. I oppose the bill HB842 because our students have a valid and reliable test instruments and will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making. It is also a unnecessary amount of money to be spending on a standardized test when the funds could go to bettering the children's education in many other ways.*

*Mahalo nui!*

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 842  
BEFORE THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
FEB. 2, 2023**

Dr. William H. Wilson

Aloha Committee Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten and members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Dr. William H. Wilson. I am a linguist working at the state legislature mandated College of Hawaiian Language where I teach doctoral courses in endangered Indigenous language revitalization and Indigenous language medium education. I have expertise in researching on how early childhood cognitive development and the features of Hawaiian and English differently affect the development of literacy, numeracy, mathematics and other domains of early education. I also have expertise in bridging from Hawaiian medium preschool into early elementary. I am the author of peer-reviewed publications on Hawaiian and Indigenous language medium education and have advised Cherokee Nation and the Guam DOE on Indigenous language immersion initiatives. Currently I am part of a team at the Hawaiian Language College that is to be on contract with the State of New Mexico to provide services in developing early childhood Indigenous language medium education for the twenty-three tribes in that state.

I have been involved in the development and support of Hawaiian language medium education since its beginnings in the 1980s. Among my services to the DOE have been membership on the Multilingual Committee, membership on special committees advising the BOE on its Kaiapuni Hawai'i policy, assistance with the Hawaiian provisions of the BOE policy on the Seal of Biliteracy, and serving as an advisor to the DOE relative to its establishment of the KĀ'EO Assessments.

My experience with the DOE is that while it is proud of state legislative leadership in establishing the most developed Native American Language medium education program in the United States, the DOE administers those Hawaiian programs in manner that excessively mirrors English medium programs. It is my opinion that the DOE does so to a point of negatively impacting the academic and language revitalization goals of the Hawaiian language medium programs.

In closely mirroring English medium education and an English language medium mindset rather than a Hawaiian mindset, the DOE ignores international research. That research recognizes the key role of the distinctive phonology, syllable structure, morphology, lexicon and orthography of the specific language medium of instruction of a school in the development of literacy, mathematics and science taught through that language. The DOE has also ignored federal legislation specific to Hawaiian language medium education as a federally recognized form of Native American language medium

education that would allow the DOE to move away from requiring Hawaiian medium education to follow English medium education.

HB 842 is another example of the DOE seeking to force and constrain the Hawaiian medium program into an English medium framework which, in my opinion as a researcher is unwise and unsuitable. Furthermore, such a practice is rejected by stakeholder parents and teachers in the Hawaiian medium schools.

In all but a couple of charters, the majority of the incoming kindergarteners do not speak Hawaiian. It is a major task for kindergarten teachers to develop an ability in their non-Hawaiian-speaking students to understand, speak, and begin to read Hawaiian sufficiently well to be assessed properly through Hawaiian even by grade 1, much less than within the time period required by section 2 of HB 842.

Also related to the huge task of Hawaiian immersion kindergarten teachers to develop child proficiency in the Hawaiian medium of education is the lack of access to federal Title III resources designed for that purpose. DOE policy is to provide federal Title III funds only to the English medium schools. However, the percentage of children not knowing the medium of education (English) is much smaller in English medium kindergartens than is the percentage of those who do not know the medium of education (Hawaiian) in Hawaiian medium schools.

The Hawaiian medium assessment as proposed in HB 842 is also problematic for the Hawaiian speakers in Hawaiian medium kindergartens. Annually, the vast majority of such students come from Pūnana Leo schools, especially in the DOE operated kindergartens. The Pūnana Leo program follows standards and methodologies based in the Hawaiian language, not those based in the English language, such as the Common Core Standards upon which the DOE's Hawaiian medium KĀ'EO assessments are based. The Johns Hopkins English medium kindergarten assessments also follow the Common Core, which is used in its home state of Maryland. Therefore, the DOE designation of the Johns Hopkins assessment as the model to which the proposed Hawaiian assessment is to be aligned is another misguided Common Core requirement on Hawaiian medium education.

An example of a major difference between Hawaiian language research-based standards and the Common Core/KĀ'EO standards is how early literacy is taught. The difference in method of teaching Hawaiian literacy will cause a problem in administering the DOE planned Hawaiian medium assessment as aligned with the Johns Hopkins and KĀ'EO assessments. Such an assessment will misrepresent the literacy skills of the Hawaiian-speaking children in the schools.

The traditional Hawaiian method of learning to read, as used in the highly successful Hawaiian medium schools of the 19th century and further developed by the 'Aha Pūnana Leo, involves early reading by memorized syllables at ages 3 through 5. Under the Pūnana Leo methodology, it is only after being able to read fluently that students learn the names of the individual letters. The reason that letter names are learned

later is because the names of the letters are also the names of syllables causing confusion among children. Using the Pūnana Leo syllabic method, a large portion of Hawaiian-speaking Pūnana Leo children enter kindergarten already able to sound out any Hawaiian word and often read three to four-word sentences.

Aligning the Hawaiian medium assessment with the Johns Hopkins kindergarten assessment, will not include assessment of ability to read sentences (something that a large number of Hawaiian-speaking children can do) but will include the naming of individual letters. It will further push Hawaiian medium teachers to teach to the test and concentrate on letter names rather than actual reading of sentences. This already occurs in some Hawaiian medium kindergartens where teachers strictly follow the directives of the DOE relative to the Common Core/KĀ'EO standards based in English. I have heard a number of reports of children entering such DOE classrooms who were already able to read Hawaiian at Pūnana Leo schools, who then forgot how to read in kindergarten as their kindergarten teacher followed the DOE directives to use English language-based learning approaches to reading, focusing on letter names and sounds.

There are other challenges and burdens that the DOE has placed on teachers and students in Hawaiian language medium programs due to the DOE focus on aligning Hawaiian language medium education with English language medium education from other states. The cost of aligning Hawaiian language medium education is expensive and appears to be producing no real benefits to the teachers, students and families, teachers and students in Hawaiian medium education. My understanding is that the KĀ'EO assessments have cost the state over five million dollars. I am not aware of any DOE studies as to how the results of the KĀ'EO assessments have helped teachers and students improve final educational and language revitalization outcomes. The statistics I have on final outcomes of Hawaiian medium education come are from Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u laboratory school. It was established in 1997 by the legislature with no funding attached. The outcomes at Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u exceed the state averages for high school graduation and immediate enrollment into college. (See attached data.)

Most parents of students at Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u have opted their children out of the DOE the KĀ'EO and the Smarter Balanced Assessments administered by the school. This has resulted in the DOE placing the school in Continuous School Improvement (CSI) status, placing an additional burden on teachers. The school cannot depend on the minimal data provided from the few students whose parents agree to have them take the school's implemented KĀ'EO and Smarter Balanced Assessments. To meet the goals of informing parents, closing the school readiness gap, and informing instruction, Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u laboratory school uses internal Curriculum Based Measures (CBM) aligned with those used in Pūnana Leo Schools. This is a very economical method of assessment and conforms with the recommendations of the National Research Council for early childhood education, as required in HRS 302A-1165 (b) (4). I believe that the DOE could benefit by looking into what is being accomplished at the laboratory school

Testimony of Dr. W.H. Wilson on HB 842 (page 4 of 4)

established by the legislature to provide distinctive support and research on Hawaiian language medium education.

**I urge that your committee not to pass HB 842.**

Mahalo nui for the special interest of the legislature in Hawaiian language medium education.

ATTACHMENT: NĀWAHĪOKALANI‘ŌPU‘U (Kea‘au Campus) CLASS OF 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS (2 pages)

NĀWAHĪOKALANI‘ŌPU‘U (Kea‘au Campus) CLASS OF 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
 Dr. William H. Wilson [wilsonwi@hawaii.edu](mailto:wilsonwi@hawaii.edu) from Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani College, UH Hilo 17  
 January 2022

[NH = Native Hawaiian (1); EL = English Learner (2); FRL = Free or Reduced Lunch Recipient

	Students (3)(4)	Graduated on time (5)(6)	Enrolling directly in college (7)	Earned UHH certificate (8)	Student athlete (9)	HIDOE seal of bliteracy (10)	HIDOE honors certificate (11)	HIDOE vale- dictorian (12)
NH EL + FRL	8	8	7	6	3	5	4	1
NH EL + non-FRL	10	10	9	7	6	5	4	0
NH non- EL + FRL	5	5	2	2	4	2	2	0
NH non- EL + non -FRL	6	6	6	5	4	4	2	1
Non-NH, EL + non- FRL	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Totals/%	30/100%	30/100%	25/83%	21/70%	18/60%	17/57%	13/43%	2/7%

EXPLANATORY NOTES:

- (1) The Native Hawaiian students at Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u are part of the single largest racial/ethnic group in state HIDOE public and charter schools, where they represent some 26% of all students. Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u has no racial/ethnic criteria for enrollment, however, non-Native Hawaiian students typically make up no more than 5% of the Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u enrollment. Most non-Native Hawaiian students at Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u are, like the Native Hawaiian students, multiracial. Within public and charter schools as a whole Native Hawaiians are a racial/ethnic group with a significant achievement gap.
- (2) Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u operates as a Hawaiian language medium school (HRS 304H 1-7) designed for students entering school as Hawaiian speakers. HIDOE classifies students as EL if a non-English language such as Hawaiian is their first language, the language most used in their home, or the language most used by the student. However, the HIDOE does not officially record Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u students as EL with EL services unless they transfer to a state English medium school. Under the Native American provisions of the ESEA definition of EL all Native Hawaiian Nāwahī students would meet the EL definition.
- (3) Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u is by law is a laboratory school of the Hawaiian language college (HRS 304A 1301-1302). The fall 2021 P-12 enrollment at Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u was 535 at its Kea‘au campus. (Satellite campuses are in Waimea and Wai‘anae are not included here.) The Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u elementary and middle school programs are operated as a charter school and explore ways to better adapt charter schooling to Hawaiian language medium education. The Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u high school program operates as an off-campus Hawaiian language medium

- program of Hilo High School and explores ways to better adapt standard public schooling to Hawaiian language medium education. Funding for its students goes to Hilo High School. At the preschool level, Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u operates a program that bridges a state charter operated program and the Native Hawaiian non-profit ‘Aha Pūnana Leo operated infant-toddler program and language nest preschool exploring ways that such cooperation can benefit students in the state.
- (4) Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u also serves as a training site for student teachers from the College’s Hawaiian language medium teacher education program.
  - (5) The Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u senior class of 30 is part of the larger Hilo High School class of 263.
  - (6) The Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u high school program is located on a distinct campus in the Puna District thirty minutes from the Hilo High School campus. Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u students participate with other Hilo High School students in athletics and extracurricular events (e.g., prom, commencement).
  - (7) Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u has consistently outperformed the state average in high school graduation since its first graduation in 1999. That was the first class graduating from a Hawaiian language medium school in over a century. The state of Hawai‘i high school graduation rate as an average for students of all races has been 83%-86%, with the rate for Native Hawaiian students at around 79%.
  - (8) Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u has a long history of outperforming the state average in direct enrollment in college. The college going rate directly from high school for Hawai‘i public schools as an average of all races is approximately 50%-55%, with the rate for Native Hawaiian students at 35%-44%. Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u’s students have been able to enroll in out-of-state universities as well as the state Hawaiian language college and other state tertiary institutions. Among out-of-state universities from which Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u students have graduated are Loyolla Marymount, Northern Arizona and Stanford.
  - (9) Students who demonstrate readiness for Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u’s early college program are enrolled in Hawaiian language medium courses that allow completion of one of two certificates offered by the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, either a) the Hawaiian Culture Certificate (19 credits no less than 10 at the 300 level or higher) or b) the Multidisciplinary Hawaiian Studies Certificate (26 credits with no less than 10 at the 300 level or higher).
  - (10) Among the sports in which these Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u seniors have participated are football, girls soccer, boy’s soccer, boy’s basketball, girl’s volleyball, boy’s volleyball, girl’s softball, track and field, riflery, Hawaiian outrigger canoe paddling, boy’s wrestling.
  - (11) Hawai‘i’s requirements for the Seal of Biliteracy include a 3.0 overall high school grade point average, a 3.0 grade point average in Language Arts classes in an official state language (English or Hawaiian) and passing a national on-line assessment of another language at the equivalent of ACTFL Intermediate Mid. All Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u students who have met the grade point requirements for the Seal and who have chosen to take the on-line assessments for the Seal have passed the assessment. Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u students use a 3.0 grade point average in Hawaiian Language Arts as their base and take an on-line assessment in another language (typically English) for the Seal. Since the initiation of the Seal in 2017, Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u students have comprised a considerable percentage of awardees statewide.
  - (12) Hawai‘i requirements for an honors certificate include a 3.0 overall grade point average, no less than two credits at the AP or college level and completion of one or more distinct courses of study as described at <https://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/StudentLearning/GraduationRequirements/Pages/Requirements.aspx>.
  - (13) Hawai‘i requirements for the valedictorian designation are an overall 4.0 grade point average and meeting the requirements for an honors certificate.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:50:03 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Zachary Lorenzo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kū‘ē!



**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 2:03:09 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anthony Pfluke	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill is not appropriate, because all need to be welcomed to learn ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 3:00:06 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ahia Dye	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. Please do not create invalid and unreliable test instruments. There will be no true benefit to come of a test that aligns with the English language and ENGLISH language perspectives, for Hawaiian language kindergarten entry assessments. Please refer to indigenous test instruments.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 4:57:24 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keʻala Neumann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui kākou,

I am a parent of keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I **oppose** bill HB 842. HB 842 does not align with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please STOP HB 842 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Keʻala Neumann

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 5:04:16 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Samantha Debus	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

E like me ka‘u i hō‘ike ai no ke kāko‘o piha i ka pila HB962 e kū‘ē ana i nei pila HB 842, pehea ke ‘ae ‘ia ka Hawai‘i e loiloi i ka ulu o ka lou. I strongly oppose this bill and its continued perpetuation of colonial practices exemplified here through judging the abilities of our Hawaiian language learners by measuring their academic success through an English lens. It is akin to judging a fishes ability to fly. Both have their place. Stop trying to Americanize the only place on Earth that Hawaiian medium education is available to our children.

Mahalo,

Malu Debus

**DATE:** February 1, 2023

**TO:** Justin Woodson, Chair  
Lisa Marten, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Education

**FROM:** Kahele Dukelow

**RE:** **HB 842**  
**Hearing on Feb 2, 2023 , 3pm**

Aloha,

I have been involved in Kaiapuni education for the last thirty years as a teacher, parent and community advocate. I am testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT HB 842 - Relating to Education**.

Kaiapuni (Hawaiian medium) education is, and always should be, accessible to all students through our public education system. In our efforts to rebuild a dual language public education system in Hawai'i, the Department of Education has the responsibility to develop appropriate educational tools through research and collaboration with experts and stakeholders. HB 842 provides this opportunity.

Instead of adapting an English assessment tool, we will be able to develop a tool that considers all of the unique characteristics of our Kaiapuni schools including Hawaiian language, Hawaiian culture and second language learning. **This is an opportunity to build our public capacity in Hawaiian medium education through research and development for the good of our keiki.** Hawai'i is unique in that our public education systems have been the main vehicles for Hawaiian language learning and revitalization projects.

This bill is an effort towards a more equitable public education system where Kaiapuni schools are valued for the essential learning opportunities they provide and not through an English learning lens.

I urge the Committee to **PASS** HB 842.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 7:11:46 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kahea Faria	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha mai Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten and Members,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in Support of HB842 with comments.

I'd like to start off by acknowledging the Hawaii Department of Education's efforts to address Act 210, an Act that may have garnered the support of the Hawaiian language immersion community had they been invited to engaged in those discussions. As of today, we continue to broaden our understanding of Act 210. From my current understanding of Act 210 - it will not penalize teachers or schools regardless of students' performances on those assessments, therefore I support the development of an appropriate kindergarten entry assessment for Hawaiian language immersion schools by the Hawaii Department of Education through its Office of Hawaiian Education.

Section 302A (4) - What happens if issues or challenges that does not conform to the National Research Council's reports are identified? Are there resources to support identified issues/challenges?

Mahalo nui in advance for your attention to these comments.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 8:07:57 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kehaulani Medeiros	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee of Education & Representatives,

I am Kēhaulani Medeiros, a teacher and a parent of students who attend Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u. I am writing to express my opposition for HB842. I feel it will be a waste of resources to translate a test for our Hawaiian speaking students entering kindergarten. We have our own assessments to assist the teachers on how to work best with incoming students. About half of our kindergarten students enroll not knowing the Hawaiian language but we still encourage them to attend our school and become a Hawaiian language speaker. An assessment translated from English will not be of any value since we are focused on educating through the Hawaiian language with a cultural perspective, any skills needed for kindergarten students will be taught and/or strengthened along with their learning the Hawaiian language. There will be no value in requiring a kindergarten student entering a Hawaiian medium education school to take an assessment. If the kindergarten student has no prior experience with the Hawaiian language, we will not turn them away if they have a desire to learn. The state should spend less resources on assessments and more time and money on assisting the schools with more classrooms and teacher retention so we may better assist the students regardless of their language. Please do not make it a challenge to continue to provide Hawaiian medium education for our children. Mahalo for your time and consideration in this matter.

Kēhaulani Medeiros

Parent/teacher at Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair  
Date of Hearing: 02-02-2023  
Time: 2:00pm  
Location: 309 Via Video Conference

Testimony in STRONG OPPOSITION of HB 842

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Kyla Keakealani Manzano  
Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki LPCS  
16-120 'Ōpūkaha'ia st.  
Kea'au HI 96749

Aloha mai e ka mea heluhelu,

My name is Kyla Keakealani Manzano and I am a kumu papa mālaa'o at Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki Public Carter School. I am once again writing a testimony of STRONG OPPOSITION this time specifically to HB 842.

I STRONGLY OBJECT to HB 842 that requires the board of education to adopt and the department of education to administer a kindergarten entry assessment in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for Kaiapuni schools. Delaying the administration of the kindergarten entry assessment in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for Kaiapuni schools to the 2026-2027 school year.

Firstly, as many don't understand, 'ōlelo Hawai'i is not a simply translatable language. Trying to just translate an English Medium based assessment into 'ōlelo Hawai'i is impossible. Not only is vocabulary and structure untranslatable, but it will also lack kuana'ike, or the necessary perspective needed to truly translate anything into 'ōlelo Hawai'i. 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and kuana'ike go hand in hand and can never be separated. The kuana'ike Hawai'i is something your proposed assessment will never have.

That being said, the keiki who 'ōlelo Hawai'i that enter kindergarten in a Kaiapuni or Kaia'ōlelo setting will be very confused with an assessment based on such a very foreign perspective such as the John Hopkins English Medium Assessment.

Here at Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u Iki, we already have working assessments in place. Being that I am actually a kindergarten teacher who actually works with kindergarteners in a kaiapuni/ kaia'ōlelo school, I can first



hand tell you that your proposed assessment is completely unnecessary, and will be wasting \$700K- \$1.2 Million.

Mahalo nui,

Kyla Manzano

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 6:19:27 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Irwin	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 6:51:32 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nikiya White	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing to oppose HB842. There are already accurate and reliable testing procedures in place at Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u. Additional testing based on the English language and its perspective is unnecessary and would be of no real benefit to our families. Additional testing, would also cost a large amount of money that I would much rather see being used for school materials, books and other needed equipment.

**LATE**

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 9:29:32 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Serena Hayes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Nāwahī has valid and reliable test instruments, and will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making.

**LATE**

**HB-842**

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 12:13:56 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/2/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Bouchard	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is completely unnecessary and outrageously costly. Put these funds towards teacher training and resources instead, or develop more learning tools for keiki in an official language of the state, ‘Olelo Hawai‘i!!