

**STATE OF HAWAII
BOARD OF EDUCATION**
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, March 1, 2023
10:10 a.m.
Via Videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 211

Senate Bill 481, Senate Draft 1, Relating to Education

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Board of Education (“Board”) respectfully provides **comments** on SB 481 SD1, which would, among other things, repeal standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten.

The Board supports proposed legislation that provides the Board and Department with necessary flexibility to develop and implement a kindergarten entry assessment that benefits all children entering kindergarten at public schools. Further, the Board recently adopted a new strategic plan with a desired outcome that “all entering kindergarten students are assessed for social, emotional, and academic readiness and provided necessary and timely support to develop foundational skills for learning.” The Board would still ask the Department of Education (“Department”) to pursue kindergarten entry assessments for all students, even if no longer required by statute, to ensure they receive the necessary supports to set them up for success.

The Board defers to the Department on operational and implementation matters related to this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of the Board.

Sincerely,

Bill Arakaki
Chairperson, Board of Education 2023 Legislative Ad Hoc Committee



Osa Tui, Jr.
President
Logan Okita
Vice President
Lisa Morrison
Secretary-Treasurer
Ann Mahi
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

RE: SB 481 SD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association is **providing comments** on **SB 481**, relating to education. This bill requires the Department of Education to submit annual reports. Repeals standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten.

HSTA actually preferred the language in SB 827 that would have exempted Hawaiian Immersion schools from this Kindergarten Entry Assessment, and we support their exemption, instead of exempting all kindergarteners as this bill does now. This assessment is not a typical standardized “sit at a desk and take an assessment”. It is an assessment done over time through teacher observations in the classroom during student learning. It is just not appropriate for our Hawaiian Immersion schools, especially since it is not even in Hawaiian currently.

Many Kindergarten students who enter Hawaiian Immersion Programs may not speak Hawaiian until the end of Kindergarten, so it would be unfair to give this assessment in Hawaiian, but at the same time it would not align with the Hawaiian Immersion program if they had to give this assessment in English either, as it goes against what they do in Hawaiian Immersion schools (Kaiapuni Schools) by speaking only ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i. It is very impressive that most Kindergarteners in Hawaiian Immersion Programs do speak, understand, and are learning to write in Hawaiian by the end of Kindergarten. We applaud their efforts to bring back ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i as well as their culture and we want to support them more.

We also highly recommend that the DOE reach out to our Hawaiian Immersion public schools for input from our Hawaiian Immersion teachers, before deciding to give a KEA to their students.

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 10:10 a.m.

By

Bonnie Irwin, Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 481 SD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 481 SD1. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) supports passage SB 481 SD1. This version of the bill, SD1, removes the requirement for kindergarten entry assessments for Ka Papa Kaiapuni students.

Among the colleges of UH Hilo is Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani (College), the Hawaiian language college established by statute, HRS §304A-1301. The College has a laboratory school program that includes the majority of preschools and charter schools where students are taught through Hawaiian. A large number of 'ohana in those schools have expressed their desire to have Hawaiian medium kindergartens exempt from any Board of Education and Department of Education developed kindergarten assessment. UH Hilo and the College support the will of those 'ohana.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 03/01/2023

Time: 10:10 AM

Location: CR 211 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0481, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to submit annual reports. Repeals standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten. Effective 7/1/3000. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) provides comments on SB 481, SD1.

The Department emphasizes that the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) is a useful assessment that will provide important data to teachers regarding students' baseline readiness at kindergarten entry.

On February 2, 2023, the Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) approved a Strategic Plan in which Goal 1.1.1 states that "All entering kindergarten students are assessed for social, emotional, and academic readiness and provided necessary and timely support to develop foundational skills for learning."

As such, the Department believes in the importance of the KEA as a tool to provide support and promote greater learning outcomes for all of its early learners.

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

FOR: SB481 SD1 Relating to Education
DATE: March 1, 2023
TIME: 10:10 A.M.
COMMITTEE: Committee on Ways and Means
ROOM: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director
State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments regarding **SB 971 SD1 and requests changes to the language of the bill**. SD 1 requires the Department of Education to submit annual reports and repeals standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten.

In the current law, the Commission is required to adopt the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) that is adopted by the Hawaii Board of Education. In Senate Draft 1, the requirement of the KEA has been eliminated and replaced instead with a reporting requirement of attendance at the early learning program that the child attended during the previous academic year. However, the draft did not make the same changes for public charter schools.

Accordingly, the Commission asks that the same changes be applied to public charter schools and offers the following changes to SD1 page 2, line 17:

SECTION 2. Section 302D-37, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the title of this section [Standardized assessment for students entering kindergarten.] Prior early learning programs attendance disclosure. [Section effective July 1, 2023.] (a) [The commission shall adopt the kindergarten entry assessment adopted by the board pursuant to section 302A-1165(a) to assess all charter school students entering kindergarten within the first thirty days of admission into kindergarten.] At least one parent or guardian of each child entering kindergarten shall disclose to the department

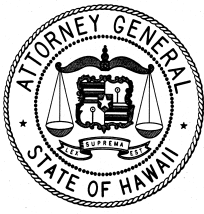
public charter school the name of, address of, and duration of attendance at the early learning program that the child attended during the previous academic year. The public charter school shall provide this information to the department of education. The public charter school may also require the disclosure of any other information not otherwise prohibited by law that would assist the department, the department of human services, the charter school commission and the executive office on early learning in developing, assessing, and implementing strategies to meet the early learning needs of children in the State. The department and the executive office on early learning shall use the information to assist the executive office on early learning and department of human services in determining the levels of prekindergarten attendance and need for child care in geographic regions of the State and identify the highest priority regions requiring prekindergarten programs and child care to meet the needs of unserved or underserved eligible children.

(b) ~~[The commission may waive the requirements of the uniform kindergarten entry assessment on a case-by-case basis.]~~ The public charter school may include a request for the information required by subsection (a) on a kindergarten enrollment form or any other appropriate form.

(c) The commission shall share the information gathered from public charter schools pursuant to this section with the department of education, department of human services, and executive office on early learning to the extent not otherwise prohibited by administrative rule or law. [L 2020, c 46, pt of §3; am L 2021, c 210, §9]

(d) Pursuant to HRS §302A-1166 (d), the department of education shall submit an annual report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session, beginning with the regular session of 2024, containing the information gathered pursuant to this section, including early learning program attendance by school."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 481, S.D. 1, RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 **TIME:** 10:10 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY.**
(For more information, contact Anne T. Horiuchi,
Deputy Attorney General, at (808) 586-1255)

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments.

Before Senate Draft 1, the original purpose of this bill was to require the Board of Education to develop a standardized Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment to be administered by the DOE, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year. Additionally, the bill required the State Public Charter School Commission to adopt the assessment and required that 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 Senate Committee on Education amended the original bill in Senate Draft 1, to (1) require the Department of Education (DOE) to submit annual reports, (2) repeal the standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten, (3) delete the requirement to develop a standardized Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment, and (4) require the DOE to submit annual reports to the Legislature regarding information about prior early learning programs attendance.

These changes, from the development of a standardized Hawaiian language kindergarten entry assessment to the repeal of all standardized kindergarten entry

assessments, could be challenged as fundamentally altering the bill's original purpose and presenting a germaneness issue.

Under *League of Women Voters of Honolulu v. State*, 150 Haw. 182, 499 P.3d 382 (2021), the Hawaii Supreme Court held that a bill must pass three readings in each house if a "non-germane amendment changes the object or subject of a bill so that it is no longer related to the original bill as introduced." *Id.* at 205, 499 P.3d at 405. There is a two-step analysis to determine whether changes made to a bill are "non-germane" and require additional readings. The first step is to assess whether the change falls outside the scope of the subject of the bill as expressed in its title. The second step is to determine whether the amendment alters the bill in a way that fundamentally changes the bill's general purpose.

Since *League of Women Voters*, we do not have further authoritative guidance from the Supreme Court on the application of the two-step analysis. Nevertheless, providing that this bill from this point receives at least three readings in each house would resolve any potential challenges.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



16-120 'Ōpūkaha'ia St
Kea'au, HI 96749
(808) 982-4260
(808) 966-7821
www.nawahi.org

Ka Papa Alaka'i

Dr. Kēhaulani
'Aipia-Peters,
Pelekikena

Kēhaulani Shintani,
Hope Pelekikena

Kyla Manzano,
Kākau 'Ōlelo

Leilani Ka'apuni,
Pu'ukū

Kamalei Hayes

Dr. Kauanoe
Kamanā

Nāmaka Rawlins

Dr. Pila Wilson

Kayla Asing

'Ānela Freitas

No 'Ane'i Ko
Kākou Ola!

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: 03-01-2023
Time: 10:10am
Location: Conference Room 211

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

SB 481, HD1, RELATING TO EDUCATION **STRONG SUPPORT**

E nā Po'ō Kōmike a me nā Lālā Kōmike o ka Māhele WAM, aloha nui kākou

My name is Dr. Kēhaulani 'Aipia-Peters, and I am the Governing Board Chair of Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'ū Iki, Laboratory Public Charter School. I am providing written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of SB 481, HD1.

We, the governing board of Nāwahī, STRONGLY SUPPORT SB 481, HD1 that "repeals standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten".

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. We strongly believe that our own assessment addresses and evaluates the uniqueness of our program, something that the Johns Hopkins English Language Medium Assessment would be ineffective at accomplishing.

Repealing this assessment would prevent the negative impact of English medium education laws and policies on Hawaiian Medium Education.

Mahalo,

Kē. Kēhaulani Aipia-Peters

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



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

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

Ka Papa Alaka'i
Board of Directors

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Pelekikena

'Alohilani Rogers
Kākau'Ōlelo

Larry Kimura

William H. Wilson

Ki'ope Raymond
Hullilau Wilson

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

Ne'epapa

Kula Kamali'i

Pūnana Leo o Hilo

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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

DATE: March 1, 2023

TIME: 10:10AM

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

SB 481 SD 1 Relating to Education

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Keith-Agaran Vice Chair 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 strongly supports SB 481 SD1.

SB 481 SD 1 is a necessary fix for the early learning system being developed statewide by eliminating a uniform standardized assessment for entry to public kindergarten. It is an unnecessary and unwarranted expense for which funds could be deployed in much more useful ways.

Act 210 was passed in the 2021 session during the height of the covid pandemic and gave us no time to provide guidance or research to the legislature on the inappropriate application of a standardized KEA. 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".

In lieu of an exemption specific to Hawaiian medium, 'Aha Pūnana Leo supports the full repeal of the mandatory uniform KEA for all kindergarten classrooms in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

Ka'iulani Laehā
'Aha Pūnana Leo, Inc.





Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

March 1, 2023

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee,

We support SB 481 SD1, which requires the DOE to submit annual reports to the legislature and repeals standardized assessment requirements for students entering kindergarten.

The goal of Act 46 and Act 210 is for the State to provide access to all three- and four-year-olds to quality learning opportunities. The first step is determining what and where the need is for these opportunities. Having the DOE obtain information from parents on what type of early learning program their child attended prior to kindergarten will be helpful to state agencies such as the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) for strategic planning and implementation to meet the needs of families. The additional reporting requirement added to 302A-1166 is helpful so that the legislature can also be informed.

We also agree with the amendment to repeal at this time the standardized kindergarten assessment requirements for both English and Hawaiian. While baseline data can be useful, if the implementation to obtain this data is too burdensome for schools, it will not be worth the cost to the system.

To maintain consistency in the statute, the amendment should apply to both charter schools and DOE schools.

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

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

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director



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

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



Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u

"No 'Ane'i Ko Kākou Ola"

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: 03-01-2023 Time: 10:10pm

Location: Conference Room CR211

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

SB 481 SD1, RELATING TO EDUCATION

STRONGLY SUPPORT

E ka Luna Ho'omalū Dela Cruz, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalū Keith-Agaran a me nā lālā Kōmike
Ho'olako Kālā, Aloha pumehana kākou,

My name is Dr. Kauanoe Kamanā, 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 supports SB481 SD1.**

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)¹ 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 302H-7 requires that the DOE collaborate with the Hawaiian Language College and other entities listed in state law relative to Hawaiian language medium education, e.g., the College's laboratory school, Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u, listed in HRS 302A-1302. For two years prior to my invitation to a last minute stakeholders meeting on November 1st, 2023, and contrary to HRS 302H-7, Nāwahī was not sought out by the DOE 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. Subsequently were only learned of the plans for testing of children in Hawaiian language kindergartens after much of the discussion and decision-making had taken place within the DOE.

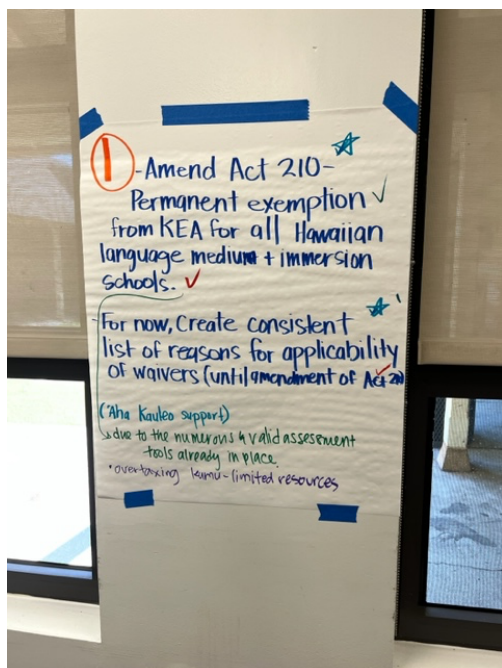
Nāwahī is opposed to spending excessive amounts of money on an effort that will work against the fundamental mission and vision of Nāwahī education as a Hawaiian language medium P-13 pathway. The DOE proposed KEA will create inaccurate data, misinform families and misalign with the strategies for success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

I support the amended version of SB481, that is SB481 SD1, as it now protects our children from the usual "one size fits all" English language medium perspective on measuring success in a Hawaiian language medium school like Nāwahī. English language centered mindsets will fail to produce quality data that support Hawaiian language medium efforts in education. The DOE proposed KEA would fail to provide the kind of data that would best serve the children, families and teachers of Hawaiian Language schools.

Me ka mahalo 'oia'i'o,

Dr. Kauanoe Kamanā
Director, Principal

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



LATE

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 12:34:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawehi Keolanui	Testifying for Ke Kula O Nawahiokalaniopuu	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e nā 'ele'ele o ka 'Aha'ōlelo,

Eia wau me ke KĀKO'O i ka pila SB481.
I am in SUPPORT of bill SB481.

E kāko'o pū mai,

na Kawehi Keolanui

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 2:28:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ka'iu Kimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e nā luna a me nā lālā o ke komike WAM,

I humbly request your support of SB481 as amended.

Mahalo,

Ka'iu Kimura

Testimony in strong support of SB481 SD1 as amended with an addition

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

My name is Dr. William H. Wilson. I am a professor of Linguistics, Hawaiian Language and Hawaiian Studies at Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at UH Hilo. I testified earlier against SB481 when it required assessments for kindergarteners taught through Hawaiian. Since SB481 was significantly amended through SD1, I am now strongly in favor of SD1. My support is not only because the DOE was moving to force an inappropriate assessment on children in schools taught through Hawaiian, but also because it was planning to spend a considerable sum of money to do so. That money could be better used to actually help the students in Hawaiian language schools or address other pressing needs of the people of the state.

SB481 SD1 as now amended also eliminates kindergarten assessments in the much larger population of students being educated through English. That area is somewhat outside the more narrow responsibility of schools taught through Hawaiian for which our College of Hawaiian language was created by the Legislature. However, as a taxpayer and relative of children attending English medium public schools of the state, I wish to also support the elimination of the required assessments at kindergarten entry in those schools. First, there is the huge cost of implementing such assessments, using funds that could support the schools or other needs of the public. Second, after following what the DOE has been planning to do relative to such assessments, which is to buy a standardized assessment using norms based on states outside Hawai'i with huge differences in demographics from the demographics in Hawai'i, I feel that such an off-the-shelf assessment from out-of-state will not properly measure Hawai'i's distinctive kindergarten population which is predominantly of Asian-Pacific origin.

Earlier I testified in favor of SB827, which like SB481 SD1 eliminates the assessment through Hawaiian. One cost free feature of SB827 was disclosure of the language medium of education of the preschools attended by a kindergarten student. I feel that such information is important to know in kindergartens taught through Hawaiian. It would also be useful for kindergartens taught through English. I recommend that those provisions of SB827, one for DOE schools, and one for charter schools, be added to SB481 SD1. I have copied them from SB827 in the attached sheet.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB481 SD1.

ATTACHEMENT SUGGESTED ADDITIONS TO SB 481 SD1 TAKEN FROM SB827

(SB 827 SECTION 3.) Section 302A-1166, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) At least one parent or guardian of each child entering kindergarten shall disclose to the department the name of, address of, and duration of attendance at the early learning program that the child attended during the previous academic year. The department shall also require disclosure of the primary language medium of education of the early learning program attended the previous academic year and if any Hawaiian language, English language, or non-official language of the State was taught in addition to the primary language medium of education. The department may also require the disclosure of any other information not otherwise prohibited by law that would assist the department, the department of human services, and the executive office on early learning in developing, assessing, and implementing strategies to meet the early learning needs of children in the State. The department and the executive office on early learning shall use the information to assist the

executive office on early learning and department of human services in determining the levels of prekindergarten attendance and need for child care in geographic regions of the State and identify the highest priority regions requiring prekindergarten programs and child care to meet the needs of unserved or underserved eligible children."

(SB 827 SECTION 5.) Section 302D-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) At least one parent or guardian of each child entering kindergarten shall disclose to the public charter school at which the child is enrolled the name and address of the early learning program that the child attended during the previous academic year. The public charter school shall also require disclosure of the primary language medium of education of the early learning program attended by the child for the previous academic year and if any Hawaiian language, English language, or non-official language of the State was taught in addition to the primary language medium of education. Each public charter school shall provide to the commission the information disclosed pursuant to this section. The commission may also require the disclosure of any other information not otherwise prohibited by law that would assist the department, the department of human

services, and the executive office on early learning in developing, assessing, and implementing strategies to meet the early learning needs of children in the State. The commission and the executive office on early learning shall use the information to assist the department of human services and executive office on early learning in determining the levels of prekindergarten attendance and need for child care in geographic regions of the State and identify the highest priority regions requiring prekindergarten programs and child care to meet the needs of unserved or underserved eligible children and shall provide the information to the department of human services."

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 4:23:55 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Hayes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support removing the DOE testing requirement for all children entering kindergarten

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 7:06:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keiki Kawaiaea	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB481 SD1. Please pass SB481 SD1 which does not require kindergarten testing.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 5:40:23 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kananinohea Makaimoku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT** SB 481 and the decision to repeal the kindergarten assessment.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:07:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jolinda Fortunato	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kako‘o wau i kēia pila. Mahalo

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:15:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lela Kalama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SB481 SD1. Mahalo!

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:16:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawailele Aki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o mākou i kēia pila SB481

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:18:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lara Kalilimoku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Nāwahī has its own valid and reliable test instruments, and will not burden our teachers on an effort that has no value to us. We will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:19:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheyves Fernandez Kekahu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:20:42 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiana Dunn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support bill SB481 SD1

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:22:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin ODonnell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill!

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:29:14 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Teleise Scanlan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB 481 SD1. Nāwahī has its own valid and reliable test instruments, and will not burden our teachers on an effort that has no value to us. We will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:29:58 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura Rehmert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this revised SB481 that removes the requirement that the DOE create and require an entry assessment for all students entering kindergarten.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:31:49 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Willette K. Akima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Willette Kalāokahaku Akima-Akau, I support SB481 SD1. As an ‘ohana who has chosen Hawaiian as the medium of education for our child , I encourage you to support this bill for the many others families who choose or chose this medium of educaton. Mahalo.

Willette K Akima-Akau

808-895-2386

kalaokahaku61@yahoo.com

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:34:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raylene Moses	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Nāwahī has its own valid and reliable test instruments, and will not burden our teachers on an effort that has no value to us.

Mahalo

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:34:37 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandy De Lima-Suganuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB 481 SD1.

Mahalo.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:37:49 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rama McIntosh	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill, so Hawaiian speakers are not tested with English tests.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:39:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
abraham kekipi-aurio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I have 3 keiki that attend Ke Kula O Nawahiokalaniopuu in Keaau. Our ohana supports the new SB481 SD1 where it removes the requirement that the Department of Education create and require an entry assessment for all students entering kindergarten. Mahalo

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:40:07 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kayla Asing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

Eia nō wau e kāko‘o ana i kēia pila SB481 SD1 i ho‘ololi ‘ia. Maika‘i mākou ma ko Nāwahī / Pūnana Leo me nā loiloi keiki e kū nei i mea e hō‘oia mau ai i ko ke keiki holomua ma ke kula. ‘O kekahi mea ko‘iko‘i, e mālama kākou i ke kuana‘ike Hawai‘i A ME ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i ke loiloi ‘ia kā kākou mau keiki ho‘ona‘auao ‘ia ma o ka ‘ōlelo ‘ōiwi.

I am in support of the newly amended SB481 SD1. The current student assessments at Nāwahī and Pūnana Leo already effectively assess the progress of our students in Hawaiian medium education schools. It is imperative that we seek the Hawaiian cultural perspectives and lens, as well as the proper use of Hawaiian language when doing assessments on students educated through Hawaiian language and worldview.

Mahalo,

na Kayla Lindsey Asing

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 9:45:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaipolani Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o Piha!

Na Kaipolani Kim

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 10:06:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shauna Springer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko'o wau

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 10:15:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB481 SD1 because the Hawaiian immersion schools already have a reliable testing system in place.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 10:32:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eri Quiocho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support SB481 SD1.

Mahalo

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 11:51:09 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ipolei Lindsey-Asing	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

'Auhea 'oukou e ka po'e 'imi ikaika 'ana i ke kākō'o 'ana i ka pila SB481, ke ala nō ho'i o ka ho'ona'auao me ka ho'onui'ike no kā kākou mau keiki hiwahiwa o Hawai'i nei.

I am a mother, a teacher & a strong supporter of our Hawaiian language. My 'ohana and I speak fluently at home and have all our keiki attend Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u, a Hawaiian language charter school. Our teaches, staff, keiki & families have the attiquite & valid testing for our keiki in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. Eia mai mākou ka 'ohana e kākō'o mau i ia pila SB481.

LATE

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 1:10:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I support this bill.

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 1:17:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikiya White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of the new and revised SB481 SD1. I am a parent of four keiki at Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u and am confident that our school already has valid and reliable test instruments in place. Mahalo!

LATE

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 1:33:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Bouchard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaiian medium school have valid and reliable test instruments. Students excel in this environment. We need to make access easier not harder to educate more students from the Hawaiian perspective and in a legal state language. Thank you in advance for supporting this bill!

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2023 8:16:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
M. Leilani DeMello	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Our 'ohana SUPPORTS SB481 SD1, mahalo for your consideration and attention to this important issue.

Mahalo,

M. Leilani DeMello

'Ōla'a, Puna, Hawai'i

SB-481-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2023 10:38:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 3/1/2023 10:10:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana K. Hayashida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

As a parent of children that have gone through and continue the Hawaiian immersion program, I support SB481 SD1. My youngest child currently attends Ke Kula ‘o Nawahiokalani’opu’u. Nawahi has its own valid and reliable test instruments that will fairly assess all students entering kindergarten in the Hawaiian immersion program. The DOE’s assessment is based on English only perspectives and decision-making which is unfair for Hawaiian immersion students and has no value to our teachers.

Mahalo nui, Dana Hayashida