

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Ke Ke'ena O Ka Hope Kia'aina

TO: Chair Justin Woodson
Vice Chair Lisa Marten
Members of the House Committee on Education

FROM: Sylvia Luke, Lieutenant Governor

RE: Testimony for H.B. 962 – Relating to Hawaiian language Programs

DATE: February 2, 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of H.B. 962** which exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

The Legislature passed Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020 which mandated a common statewide assessment for all students entering kindergarten with the option for the assessments to be administered in either English or Hawaiian. However, since enactment, stakeholders and educators have identified that while some students entering kindergarten in a Hawaiian language immersion program are fluent in the Hawaiian language due to prior participation in the 'Aha Pūnana Leo Hawaiian language medium early learning and care model, other entering kindergarteners may have minimal or no experience with the Hawaiian language, therefore any assessments conducted in the Hawaiian language for these students will likely be poor solely due to the student's inability to understand the language of the questions. We are hopeful that support from Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawaii at Hilo will help with determining appropriate standards and assessment tools.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. 962.

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: HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs
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

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

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to provide **comments on HB962** which exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

While the Commission takes no position on this bill, the Commission does support efforts to develop an appropriate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i for DOE Papahana Kaiapuni and notes that 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.

Additionally, the Commission notes that HRS §302D-37(b)ⁱ has already provided the Commission with the authority to waive the requirement for a public charter school to administer the assessment on a case by case basis, of which the Commission is currently working on a process for such a waiver. The Committee might consider affording a similar waiver for DOE Hawaiian Immersion schools as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

ⁱ §302D-37 Standardized assessment for students entering kindergarten. [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.

(b) The commission may waive the requirements of the uniform kindergarten entry assessment on a case-by-case basis.

(c) The commission shall share the information gathered from public charter schools pursuant to this section with the department, 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]

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: 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 0962 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS.

Purpose of Bill: Exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) respectfully opposes HB 962 concerning the exemption from the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA) in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni and offers comments and concerns.

Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2020 (Act 46) and Act 210, SLH 2021, amongst other mandates, required the Department to administer a uniform kindergarten entry assessment (KEA) to assess all incoming kindergarten students in English or Hawaiian, as part of a larger goal to expand the capacity, early learning, and availability of public pre-kindergarten. While there is merit for a KEA to collect data for the classroom teacher, the statewide collection of data will enable state agencies to determine early childhood needs to identify the highest priority geographic regions requiring pre-kindergarten programs to meet the needs of under served eligible children.

The purpose of any KEA, in any language, is to assess the development of children in order to determine appropriate instructional supports and enrichments to ensure that all children are successful in the given educational context. The children who enter kindergarten in a Kaiapuni context are all developmentally unique, and it behooves their teachers to find out as much as possible about each child's development in order to adapt the educational program to better support each child.

The Department suggests the development of a KEA for the Kaiapuni context that appropriately and respectfully assesses children developmentally, while also sensitively accounting for the fact that the children are still developing proficiency in 'ōlelo Hawai'i. The Department wishes to rely upon the expertise of the kumu Kaiapuni and the larger Kaiapuni community to develop an assessment that will not negatively impact students at kindergarten entry, while also providing important developmental information to teachers that can be used to guide instruction and intervention.

The Department does understand the intent of HB 962, and wants to stress that it is committed to

upholding and enhancing our dual-language educational system from the very beginning of each child's entry into kindergarten in the Department. The Department acknowledges the unique challenges faced by the Kaiapuni community, and therefore wishes to collaborate with the Kaiapuni schools and teachers to create the most appropriate KEA that will assess children's developmental needs while also honoring their positions as new learners of 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

The Department recommends amending the law to align with HB 842 and provide time to the Department to develop a Hawaiian Language Medium Education Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA).

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education
Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Bonnie Irwin, Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 962 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 962. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) urges passage of HB 962 without amendments. HB 962 seeks to exempt Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

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 as provided for in Sections 2 and 4.

UH Hilo and the College support Sections 3 and 5 regarding kindergarten entry disclosure of languages used in any preschool attended by a child.

UH Hilo and the College also support Section 6. This section provides that for the College's laboratory preschools funded through the Charter School Commission, the College is to take responsibility for improving language and academic outcomes and that appropriate data be collected from those laboratory school programs to be shared with various departments of the state government. With the College taking on the above responsibilities, the laboratory school preschools will be exempt from requirements placed on other preschools funded through the Charter School Commission.

UH Hilo and the College also support Sections 7 and 8, which further clarify the functions of the College and its use of moneys in its trust fund.

We are aware that HB 962 does not include any funding for the functions assigned to it through HB 962. UH Hilo and the College have sufficient resources to carry out the functions assigned to it by HB 962, at present, given the relatively small number of students that would be affected by this bill for the next few years into the future.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong support of HB 962.



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 962 - RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

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 **supports HB 962**, relating to Hawaiian Language Programs. This bill Exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

It is not only important to consider ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i, when developing such an 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 (Kaiapuni Schools). 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 strongly urge the DOE to consult our Hawaiian Immersion public schools, including Hawaiian Immersion public charter schools, and their teachers, for their valuable input about this particular assessment. Their input should be in the forefront over anyone else’s input.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association asks you to please support this bill.



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

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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 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

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 servicing up to 350 students annually. We stand on 40 years of experience in language revitalization and early childhood related programs. Each year over 90% of our graduates continue into public Hawaiian language medium or immersion programs.

The 'Aha Pūnana Leo strongly supports HB 962.

HB962 and its companion bill is a solution for addressing an imbalanced education system in a way that leads to long term equitable access for generations to come for the goals of Hawaiian language revitalization.

HB962 addresses the discrimination of keiki by exempting kaiapuni schools from the kindergarten entry assessment. The Board of Education action supporting a KEA was made solely to address the compliance of Act 210 for a KEA in either English or Hawaiian. This action was in spite of the department acknowledging that of the approximately 400 kaiapuni keiki **a majority of the children entering into kindergarten in immersion schools do not 'ōlelo Hawai'i.** (Oct.6 SAC board meeting).

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 nor does it meet the legislative intent of assessing kindergarten readiness. The consensus after discussions at a stakeholder meeting comprised of kumu, administrators of charter schools and DOE programs, OHE, 'Aha Pūnana Leo, and others 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. HB 962 provides exemption for papa mālaa'o Hawaiian language medium classrooms from the DOE kindergarten entry assessment in alignment with the feedback from the stakeholder group. Without exemption the DOE will be required to be compliant with legislation that does not provide unique consideration for the Hawaiian language medium programs in order to support the revitalization of our native language.

We are a very fragile system, any added burdens or barriers to entry (such as data that poorly represents the quality of our program discouraging 'ohana to enroll) will negatively impact our efforts.

E O I a K a ' Ō l e l o H a w a i ' i

HB962 includes amendments to HRS 304A-1302 of the state college of Hawaiian language. The college works with us to provide early childhood teacher training, language fluency development, curriculum development, assessments and action research. Together with the public charter Ke Kula 'o Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u and the college we demonstrate a Hawaiian medium education pathway from infant-toddler through doctoral degree education.

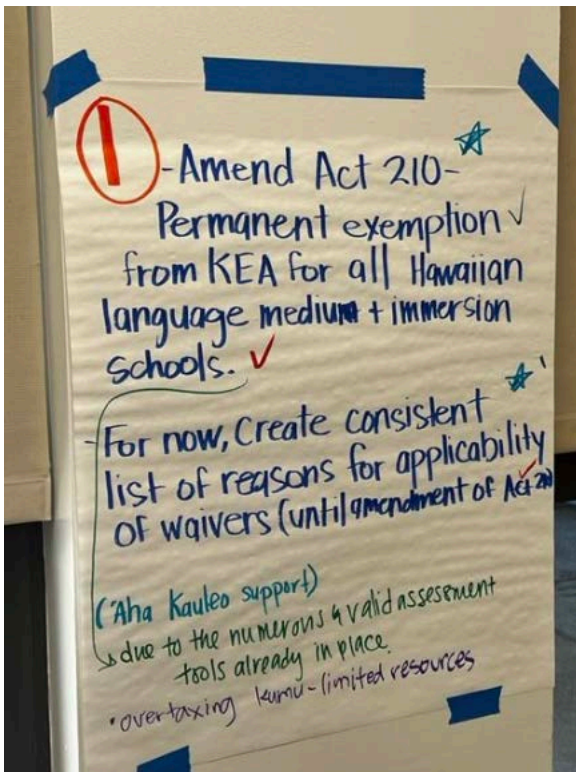
HB 962 includes collecting information on the primary medium of instruction in early learning programs and any other language that was taught in addition to the primary language of instruction. We see this data as useful in understanding Hawai'i's early learning settings and inform our agencies and policy makers of the many providers that are caring and educating our keiki. The information gathered will be useful in developing good policy to support our youngest learners in the variety of settings prior to kindergarten.

Mahalo,



Ka'iulani Laehā
'Aha Pūnana Leo, Inc.

Working document from November stakeholder meeting:



HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:45:22 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ipolei Lindsey-Asing	Na Liko Poli Makua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui, kāko'o mākou, ka hui mālama keiki o Nā Liko Poli Makua i ka pila HB962. Our Hawaiian language school, Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u have valid and reliable test instruments, and will not be deterred by English only perspectives and decision-making.

We are in strong support of HB962 that exempts the requirement of a standardized test for kindergarten students. HB962 ensures that the state will not spend an exorbitant amount of money on a standardized test.

Na mākou me ke kāko'o piha,

Nā Liko Poli Makua



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

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 962, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS **STRONGLY SUPPORT**

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 SUPPORT** of HB 962.

We, the governing board of Nāwahī, **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB 962 that exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

Nāwahī has previously submitted written and oral testimony in opposition of a Hawaiian Medium kindergarten entry assessment. A Hawaiian Language Medium Assessment that is designed to align with the Johns Hopkins English Language Medium Assessment will 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,

Kē. Kēhaulani Aipia-Peters

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

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

HB962, RELATING TO EDUCATION
STRONGLY SUPPORT

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'ānae. 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 **strongly supports HB962**

HB962 will exempt kindergarten assessment requirements for Hawaiian language immersion programs, and thereby protect and guard those programs from being negatively impacted by a standardized assessment that is required to align with the English language medium assessment of Johns Hopkins University.

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 (APL) 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 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.

HB962 requires Hawaiian language medium schools and programs the protections given to English language medium schools and programs. HB962 reflects the strategies and practices that have proven successful over the past 40 years of Hawaiian culture and language revitalization including the use of valid and reliable assessments. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the ‘APL. Its thirteen preschools around the state have planted the seeds of Hawaiian language medium education and advocated the BOE for establishing follow-up DOE and charter schools programs since 1986. The commitment of families who choose Hawaiian language medium education, comprise the motivation through which we now have three generations of children who have either already graduated or are currently enrolled in Hawaiian language immersion/medium schools and programs.

Nāwahī grew out of ‘APL efforts, and builds on the language and knowledge of our kūpuna, preparing new generations for life in a contemporary global society firmly rooted in the Hawaiian worldview. The KEA will fail to provide the kind of data that will best serve the children, families and teachers of Hawaiian Language schools.

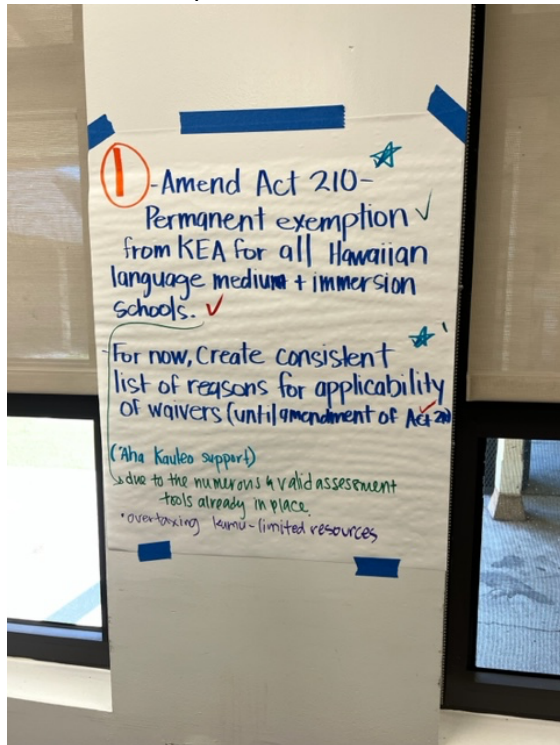
Me ka mahalo ‘oia’i’o,



Dr. Kauanoe Kamanā
Director, Principal

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

Stakeholder input from November 1st meeting





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

Relating to HB962, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS.

Exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.
STRONGLY SUPPORT

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 SUPPORTS HB962 which eliminates the requirement to produce a Hawaiian language equivalent for the English language Johns Hopkins kindergarten entry and it also exempts preschools that are laboratory schools (like Kamakau) of the Hawaiian language college (Ka Haka 'Ula 'o Ke'elikōlani at UHHilo) from following the same standards and teacher licensing requirements of the English language preschools.

Mahalo nui for this time to share our mana'o,

Me ka ha'aha'a,

P. Kameha'ililani Waiiau, M.Ed.

Hope Kahu/Principal, Ke Kula 'o Samuel M. Kamakau, LPCS

HB-962

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 6:33:26 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kupuna for the Mo'opuna	Kupuna for the Moopuna	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo nui for this bill!

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 962.

HB-962

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 9:38:37 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Evan Laeha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in full support of HB 962. This bill is supportive of our children in Hawaiian medium classrooms and education. I am a parent of a kaiapuni student. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Evan Laeha

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 6:31:16 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gillen Neff	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT HB962

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 962 - RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS. - **SUPPORT**

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 Medium Education pathway of learning must continue to be protected and for this reason, **I support HB 962.**

As a former kumu papa mālaa‘o, I am grateful that HB 962 will protect and support our Hawaiian Medium Education pathway of learning by: exempting kindergarten children from invalid and unreliable “assessments”; designating proper authority and oversight of early learning and preschool programs of laboratory schools to the Hawaiian language college to meet Hawaiian language revitalization goals and constitutional mandates; and increasing Hawaiian medium early learning materials.

The provisions in HB 962 are very specific and appropriate supports that will help our Hawaiian Medium Education ‘ohana, especially our Kula Kaiapuni early elementary students, parents, and teachers. Perhaps with supports such as HB 962, more of Hawai‘i’s families will have the opportunity to experience a solid and comprehensive educational experience through ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.

As our Hawaiian Medium Education pathway celebrates 40 years of *e ola ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i (the Hawaiian Language Shall Live)*, we look forward to the continued growth of our ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i ‘ohana and thank the Legislature for its valuable role in our *ola*. **Please pass HB 962. E ola ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i!**

Mahalo nui loa,

Nāko‘olani Warrington

Pana‘ewa, Hawai‘i

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:07:19 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia K Kanakaole	Individual	Support	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 support this measure. Mahalo.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:10:12 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERRY KIMOKEO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Terry Kimokeo. I have 7 mo‘opuna in the Hawaiian Language Program and I am in SUPPORT of this bill.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:18:41 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tomoko Skinner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:18:39 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kaleo kama'i	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Eō!

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:18:44 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kahiau Snyder	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o wau i kēia pila. I strongly support HB962.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:18:51 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
FUMIKA INOUE	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support!

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:20:41 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keʻalahilani	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Kākoʻo

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:25:39 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tanya E.L. Kua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB962 as it ensures that the state will not spend an exorbitant amount of money on a standardized test and exempts the requirement of a standardized test for kindergarten students.

Mahalo

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:28:10 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanoë Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Educationa committee,

My name is Kanoë Wilson, I am a makua of Ke Kula Nawahī‘okalani‘ōpu‘u Hawaiian language immersion school on Hawai‘i island. I am writing in support of HB962. Whereby to exempt Hawaiian language medium schools from the kindergarten assessment requirements.

Mahalo nui,

Kanoë Wilson

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:32:45 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kawehionapua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui e nā ‘elele o ka ‘Aha‘ōlelo a me ka ‘Oihana Ho‘ona‘auao o Hawai‘i,

Eia wau ‘o Kawehi Keolanui me ke KĀKO‘O i ka pila HB962. ‘A‘ohe kumu e ho‘olilo hou aku ai i ka lā‘ī ma luna o ka haku hou ‘ana i hō‘ike paekomo i unuhi ‘ia mai ka ‘ōlelo pelekānia a me kona kuana‘ike haole.

I support HB962! I would like to further see that the state will not spend an exorbitant amount of money on a standardized test.

na‘u me ke kākō‘o,

na Kawehi Keolanui

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:33:07 AM

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

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

Comments:

I strongly SUPPORT this bill (HB962) to exempt the Hawaiian language immersions programs from the standardized assessment for kindergarten students.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:41:12 AM

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

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

Comments:

I am in support of this bill.

Thank you, Erin

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:43:21 AM

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

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

Comments:

I strongly **support** bill HB962 to EXEMPT the Hawaiian language immersion programs from the English-only perspective based standardized assessment tests.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:47:04 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julaine Keamo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support bill HB962.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:52:57 AM

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

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

Comments:

I strongly support HB 962.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:53:58 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aiko English	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the bill HB962 as it exempts the requirement of a standardized test for kindergarten students.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:55:07 AM

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

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

Comments:

Kāko‘o wau me ka‘u ‘ohana i kēia pila HB962.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:58:20 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elijah Iversen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support!

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:20:00 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Namaka	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

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

I strongly support HB 962.

My mo‘opuna attend kula ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.

This bill exempts kindergartens taught through ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i from an inappropriate single standardized assessment based in English standards.

In my earlier testimony to the previous bill that will be heard today on the kaiapuni KEA I explained the need for an exemption to the KEA that is addressed in this bill HB 962.

In addition, HB962 requires no funding.

I concur and support the testimony submitted by the ‘Aha Pūnana Leo to HB 962.

Mahalo nui

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:26:30 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kehaulani Shintani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Though Hawaiian language medium education and the Hawaiian language looks like it is well established here in Hawai'i, its footing is still very tenuous. As we continue, to make progress in the revitalization of the Hawaiian language mainstream testing efforts made for English medium classroom would set those keiki who are new to the language back.

The Hawaiian medium classrooms should be exempted from these requirements and afforded the same time that was given to the English language to develop and become standardized, then assessed at a minimum 100 years.

Mahalo for your consideration

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:47:52 AM

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

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

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

As a parent of children currently/have been in the Papahana Kaiapuni, I support HB962. Our keiki/haumana should be exempt from any standardized testing based on the English language, especially in kindergarten.

Mahalo nui, ka 'Ohana Hayashida

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 10:49:04 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isaac Ahuna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the passing of bill HB962 that exempts Hawaiian Language Immersion students from the Kindergarten assessment requirements.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:34:06 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Misty Fontanilla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Misty Fontanilla, Hāna

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:38:32 AM

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

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

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Laura Rehmert

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:41:05 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diana Pohaikaloa Naihe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a few keiki attending Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Diana Naihe

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:41:53 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lokalia Makaio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in strong support of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:44:34 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hauoli Kahaleuahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo nui.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:45:39 AM

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

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am in support of bill HB962

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:48:26 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Courtney Abobo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:51:00 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tiare HewLen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Tiare HewLen

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:52:34 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Harley Broyles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in strong support of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Harley Broyles

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:00:04 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nalet Martinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Nalet Martinson

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:04:57 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelley Porter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo, Kelley Porter

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:08:31 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eric Martinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Eric

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:11:03 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharon Gibson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Sharon Gibson

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:15:53 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Monica Laʻa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha my name is Monica Laʻa,

I support bill HB962 because standardize testing is counterintuitive. Creating a Standardize assesment based on the English Language aimed at Hawaiian speaking students is a huge waste of tax payer dollars.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:17:01 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hannah Aldridge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of two keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Hannah Aldridge

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:20:18 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Moke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives. Aloha 'Ōlelo Hawai'i Month!

I am in full **support of HB962**. This bill ensures my mo'opuna will be exempt from an assessment in 'ōlelo Hawai'i that he begins to learn in kindergarten. Maika'i. Please pass HB962

Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i!

Mahalo

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:21:24 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Megan Ha'amauliola Makua Aiona	State of HI DOE - Nawahi	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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 Nawahioikalani'ōpu'u Iki, Laboratory Public Charter School. I am providing written testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB962.

He pila ka HB962 e kāpae ai i ke koina o ka loa'a o ka hō'ike loiloi anakuhi pa'a no nā keiki mālaa'o. He pila kēia e hō'oia ai i ka ho'olilo 'ole 'ana i ke kālā he nui ma luna o ia 'ano hō'ike. HB962 exempts the requirement of a standardized test for kindergarten students. HB962 ensures that the state will not spend an exorbitant amount of money on a standardized test.

I am in full support of this bill that will exempt the requirement of a standardized text for kindergarten students. This decision to support this bill will best serve the children, families and staff of Hawaiian Language schools add create a positive impact 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

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:21:42 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Devyn Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Devyn K Thompson

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:21:54 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Stoleson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is what the families of our Hawaiian Language immersion schools want and need and is currently the best way to facilitate the continued growth and health of 'ōlelo Hawai'i in Hawai'i nei. As such I support HB 962.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:22:23 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pualei Lima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a mother of a child in Hawaiian medium education. I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Pualei Lima

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:23:48 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reitchel Boyd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Reitchel Boyd

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:23:59 PM

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

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

Comments:

Kāko‘o wau! I support!

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:28:29 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anina Carmack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:28:34 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Desirae Hopwood	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the committee,

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Desirae Hopwood

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:32:22 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Precilla Santiago	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:43:54 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

As a māmā of 2 keiki in Hawaiian language immersion kula I strongly support HB962. After following the testimony on SB481 (which I 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-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:47:25 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Fischer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o wau i kēia pila no ka pono o ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i.

I support this bill to help ensure the wellbeing of the Hawaiian language.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:53:38 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kala'akea Aguiar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

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

My name is Kala'akea Aguiar and I am a third-year student at Chaminade University. I am also a proud graduate of Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u, a Hawaiian Language Medium public school on Hawai'i Island. I **strongly support** House Bill 962. HB962 exempts kindergarten students taught through 'ōlelo Hawai'i from a standardized assessment based on English standards. An assessment as such has no value to Hawaiian Language Medium and Immersion education and would produce inaccurate results, thus tarnishing the names and reputations of Hawaiian Language Medium and Immersion schools and minimizing the progress and hard work these schools have accomplished during the past 40 years. I implore you to please pass HB962.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kala'akea K. Aguiar

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:54:14 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
K Mantanona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Keeley

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:54:34 PM

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

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

Comments:

Aloha Kākou,

My name is Lela Kalama and I FULLY SUPPORT HB962.

This assessment will be a detriment to the Hawaiian immersion program due to the fact that at least half the students who enter kindergarten have zero experience with the Hawaiian language and they will not do well on this test. It will be a waste of funds and hurt the program as a whole. Also a hawaii Speaker will not do well on a test translated from English. Please PASS THIS BILL!

mahalo nui,

Na Lela Kalama

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:54:46 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dane Fujiwara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Dane Fujiwara

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 12:56:09 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
C.R.P. Montague-Mullins	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB962. Hawai'i's kindergarteners should be exempt from the requirement of standardized testing and the State of Hawai'i should not spend an exorbitant amount of money to develop said standardized test.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:00:48 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Harders	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Nick Harders

HB-962

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

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kamaha'o Kaai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

na'u me ke aloha,

na Kamaha'o.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:09:49 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Waia'u	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

My keiki will be transitioning from Pūnana Leo into Papa Mālaa‘o next year so this bill will impact his learning directly.

Mahalo,

Jessica Waia‘u

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:10:59 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaylee Kaluau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00PM

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs

SUPPORT HB 962

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

I am a kumu kaiapuni and a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,
Kaylee Kaluau

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:16:27 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aluanu Germano	Ka Umeke Kaeo	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui kākou,

‘O Aluanu ko‘u inoa. He wahi leo kāko‘o kēia i ka pila HB962 no ke kāpae ‘ana i ke koina o ka loa‘a o ka hō‘ike loiloi anakuhi pa‘a no nā keiki mālaa‘o me ka ho‘oia pū i ka ho‘olilo ‘ole o ke kālā he nui ma luna o kēia ‘ano hō‘ike.

My name is Aluanu. This is to inform the legislature that I support the HB962 bill that will exempt the requirement of a standardized test for kindergarten students as well as ensuring that the state will not spend a large amount of money on a standardized test.

Mahalo nui!

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 962
BEFORE THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
FEB. 2, 2023
Dr. William H. Wilson

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

My name is Dr. William H. Wilson. I strongly support HB 962. It exempts kindergartens taught through Hawaiian from an inappropriate single standardized assessment through Hawaiian discussed in my testimony in opposition to HB 842. Here, I want to address the early childhood features of HB 962, which I also strongly support.

HB962 requires disclosure of the languages used and taught in any preschool a child has attended. This will allow kindergartens, including kindergartens taught through Hawaiian to know if the child had any previous use of Hawaiian. At present a large percentage of children entering Hawaiian medium kindergartens do not speak Hawaiian.

HB962, under Section 6, exempts the laboratory preschools of the Hawaiian language college, as it does special education programs and Title I-funded prekindergartens of the requirements of 302D-39. This is important because Section 6 is based on research in early education through English, including the certification of teachers that is based in methodologies researched as suitable for English. Some preschools using Hawaiian may chose to follow the same regulations as applied to other preschools, which is a choice allowed in Section 6.

We have had considerable success with our laboratory school program (See Attachment). At present all 13 Pūnana Leo Hawaiian medium preschools are laboratory schools of the College, while 3 Hawaiian language charter schools that have Hawaiian medium preschools are also laboratory schools of the college. Those schools all requested the College to include them in its laboratory program. At present there is only one charter with a Hawaiian language medium preschool that is not a laboratory school of the College. There is the option for it to request participation in the program as well as may any future Hawaiian medium charters.

Within Section 6, G (n) certain requirements of laboratory preschools of the Hawaiian language college are placed upon them and the College. Those include annually working with together to improve language and academic outcomes and the collection of data with the Charter School Commission. The College has experience in both of these functions. Through the Pūnana Leo schools and its largest laboratory school Nāwahīokalani‘ōpu‘u, we have experience working with the Commission relative to exit (not entrance) assessments based on Hawaiian language research done in preschool and have had the assessments judged valid and reliable by the US Department of Education.

HB 962 also includes clarification of the functions of the College and its use of its existing funding. However, HB 962 does not include any addition funding. I do not support additional funding for the above purposes for at least the next few years.

NĀWAHĪOKALANI‘ŌPU‘U (Kea‘au Campus) CLASS OF 2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
 Dr. William H. Wilson 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-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:38:31 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Solana-Ann Adachi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Solana-Ann Adachi

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:48:33 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaleikaumaka Lorenzo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o!

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 1:58:02 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taecia Kukui Akana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Hawaiian language speaker I support this bill to exempt entry assessment for kindergartners at high and immersion school as it will support the future generations of native my language speakers as well as the need for a population of Hawaii.

With that said I believe that the right and privilege to education should be easily accessible to all and that the state has a duty to the people and especially the native Hawaiian community to meet them at their level and provide resources in order to support them to succeed in the future.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 2:00:32 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laua'e urbanozo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Laua'e urbanozo

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 2:04:53 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Pfluke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

E ola mau a mau ka ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 2:23:23 PM

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

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

Comments:

Aloha,

I write in strong support of HB962. As the Director of the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center and member of the leadership of the College of Hawaiian Language, I can attest to the necessary - and widely supported - efforts that this bill presents that will further strengthen the Hawaiian medium education pathway (HME), a pathway that is demonstrated with high quality, highly engaged and prepared students and families fluent through 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

We are aware that this bill does not include any funding for the functions assigned to it through HB 962. The partners in this HME effort have sufficient resources to carry out the functions assigned to it by HB 962 at present given the relatively small number of students that would be affected by this bill for the next few years into the future.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in strong in favor of HB 962.

TO: EDN Committee
FROM: Kananinohea Māka‘imoku Date: February 1, 2023
RE: **HB 962 Relating to Hawaiian Language Programs**

DATE: February 2, 2023

TIME: 2:00 pm

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

IN SUPPORT of HB 962

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 strongly **SUPPORT HB 962**.

HB 962 exempts kindergarten students taught through ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i from a standardized test based on English standards. The education pathway has been a successful strategy in revitalizing ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i. But, ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i is still a very endangered language and requires thoughtful planning and diligence, especially in gathering data. Passing this bill will give more time for discussion and determination of the proper path toward language vitality.

As outlined in the bill, the Kaiapuni (Hawaiian Immersion) context has many complexities. In addition, there are other critical longstanding areas to address first. Therefore, I urge you to **PASS HB 962**.

Mahalo nui

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 3:03:20 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Peterson(Nani)	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kāko‘o au!!!

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 4:52:37 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keʻala Neumann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Keʻala Neumann

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 4:59:08 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samantha Debus	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

‘Oiai he koina ka ‘ike i moakāka ke a‘o, kāko‘o piha wau i kēia pila e kāpae i ke koina loiloi anakuhi pa‘a no nā haumāna mālaa‘o. It makes no sense whatsoever for those of another language to judge the learning capacities of Hawaiian language students. I completely support HB 962, as it is pertinent for those who are judging our abilities to minimally speak our language. Creating a testing platform through English medium perspective is akin to judging a fish on its ability to fly.

Mahalo,

Malu Debus

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 5:20:41 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cassandra Gross	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to ensure that keiki are not subjected to additional barriers to learning the language of the land. HB962 ensures that the state will not spend an unnecessary and exorbitant amount of money on a standardized test that serves no interest to the public. Keiki have been successful in immersion learning of ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i for decades as evidenced by the growing number of both L1 and L2 speakers. I support this bill because it eliminates a barrier to children learning language.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 7:54:23 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kehaulani Medeiros	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee on Education & Representatives,

I, Kēhaulani Medeiros, am writing in support of HB962. I believe students who are educated in the Hawaiian language Immersion programs should be exempted from the kindergarten assessment requirements. Mahalo!

Kēhaulani Medeiros

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 SUPPORT of HB 962

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 writing this testimony in support of HB 962.

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 962 that exempts Hawaiian language immersion program students from kindergarten assessment requirements.

As stated in the bill, incoming kindergarteners come into a Hawaiian Language Medium school at many different levels of 'ōlelo Hawai'i skills. Some come in fluent, some only learning in 'ōlelo Hawai'i for less than a year, and some with no previous 'ōlelo Hawai'i experience at all.

Being that every single keiki's 'ōlelo Hawai'i expertise are all at various levels when coming into kindergarten at a Hawaiian Language Medium School, such an assessment proposed by the HB842 will only have inconsistent and unreliable results. This will hurt the Hawaiian Language revitalization movement as well as all Hawaiian Language Medium and Kaiapuni Schools. All such programs need to be exempt from the kindergarten assessment requirements.

Na'u me ka ha'aha'a,



Kyla Manzano

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:16:29 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shanda Lee	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill! As a parent of keiki who attended a Hawaiian Immersion school, I do not see the benefit this will have for the keiki or the schools. They already have testing protocols in place.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 6:20:30 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Irwin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 6:56:02 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shermaine Miner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Nāwahī has valid and reliable test instruments and 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.

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 7:21:58 AM

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

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing to support HB962. Please exempt our kindergarten level children from additional testing and put financial resources to more beneficial needs such as learning materials and equipment.

LATE

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 9:02:51 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caitlin Akiona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of a keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Caitlin Akiona me ka'u mau keiki 'o Keola lāua 'o Kamanu.

LATE

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 9:30:26 AM

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

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

Comments:

Supports to exempt the requirement of a standardized test for kindergarten students.

LATE

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 10:03:26 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaleimaile Robia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am an educator in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo,

Kaleimaile Robia

LATE

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 11:34:15 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrea Kekipi-Aurio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am a parent of 3 keiki in Hawaiian medium education and I am in **strong support** of bill HB 962. HB 962 aligns with the programmatic needs of our Hawaiian language pathway. Please pass HB 962 to support our papahana and our keiki.

Mahalo for your support in this matter,

Andrea Lehua Kekipi-Aurio

LATE

HB-962

Submitted on: 2/2/2023 12:17:55 PM

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

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

Comments:

Exemption from examination in papa mala‘o is important for the future of the hawaiian language and educational movement. We must allow our keiki the opportunity to catch up in this first year by attaining the language from the school teachers / practitioners.

mahalo