

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD

650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 268
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

PERSON TESTIFYING: Felicia Villalobos, Executive Director, on behalf of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board

DATE: April 4, 2024

TIME: 10:15 AM

LOCATION: Conference Room 211 and Video Conference

TITLE OF BILL: HB2074, HD2, SD1 RELATING TO KAIAPUNI EDUCATION

PURPOSE OF BILL: Appropriates funds to the Department of Education for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) Kaiapuni education curriculum specialist II positions and ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) Kaiapuni classroom teacher positions.

POSITION: Strongly Supports

Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee;

The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) strongly supports HB2074, HD2, SD1, relating Kaiapuni education.

We need to support our Kaiapuni students and their schools with the licensed teachers and staff they need to meet their learning needs. The Kaiapuni program has expanded significantly over the last decade: they have increased both the number of Kaiapuni programs and their student enrollment; however they do not have enough teachers and staff to expand fully, and they should. The Kaiapuni program has been expanding in response to student and family demand as to provide "reasonable access to a Hawaiian immersion program" as required by the Clarabel case in the State Supreme Court in 2019. HTSB supports these efforts.

Kaiapuni programming requires professionals who have expertise in multiple disciplines including 'Ōlelo Hawai'i (the Hawaiian language) and their curriculum area or grade level. HTSB supports this bill's appropriations and the establishment of thirteen more positions for their Kaiapuni programming. It is a very important step to provide Kaiapuni programs with the specialized staffing they need for their expansion and sustainability. We support the measure so long as it does not adversely impact priorities identified in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request for FY2025.

The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board asks your committee to support this bill.



HB2074 HD2 SD1
RELATING TO KAIAPUNI EDUCATION
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

April 4, 2024

10:15 a.m.

Conference Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS HB2074 HD2 SD1**, which appropriates funds to the Department of Education for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) curriculum specialist II positions and ten full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) classroom positions for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni schools.

For Hawaiians, the life of our language, ‘Olelo Hawai‘i is tied to the health and well-being of our people and culture. “I ka ‘olelo no ke ola, i ka olelo no ka make” is a revered Olelo No‘eau proverb that translates to “Life is in speech/language, death is in speech/language.” Ka Papahana Kaiapuni is an important program that both enhances the revitalization of our language and educates the next generation of students. Its success supports the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians, our language, and our culture.

Ka Papahana Kaiapuni programming has also been and continues to be integral to the State fulfilling its constitutional obligations: Article X, Section 4 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution gives the State the duty to “promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history, and language.” Further, the Constitution states that “the State shall provide for a Hawaiian education program” consisting of “language, culture, and history” in the public schools. The use of “community expertise shall be encouraged” as a suitable and essential means in furtherance of the Hawaiian education program.

As this bill notes, and as the Native Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of this Legislature has acknowledged by introducing this bill as an integral part of the Caucus’s Legislative Package this session, demand for Hawaiian language immersion education has grown over the past decade despite resources declining. Kaiapuni programming requires professionals who have expertise in multiple disciplines including Hawaiian language and their curriculum area or grade level. OHA supports the appropriations being made by SD1 for the establishment of a total of 13 positions for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni programming.



SB3087 SD1
RELATING TO EARLY LEARNING
Hosue Committee on Education

It is an important and crucial step to provide Kaiapuni programs the specialized staffing that these Kaiapuni programs need for their expansion and sustainability.

Accordingly, OHA urges this Committee to **SUPPORT Ka Papahana Kaiapuni by advancing HB2074 HD2 SD1**. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



LATE

KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 04/04/2024

Time: 10:15 AM

Location: CR 211 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Bill Title: HB 2074, HD2, SD1 RELATING TO KAIAPUNI EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds to the Department of Education for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) Kaiapuni education curriculum specialist II positions and ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) Kaiapuni classroom teacher positions. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Takes effect 7/1/3000. (SD1)

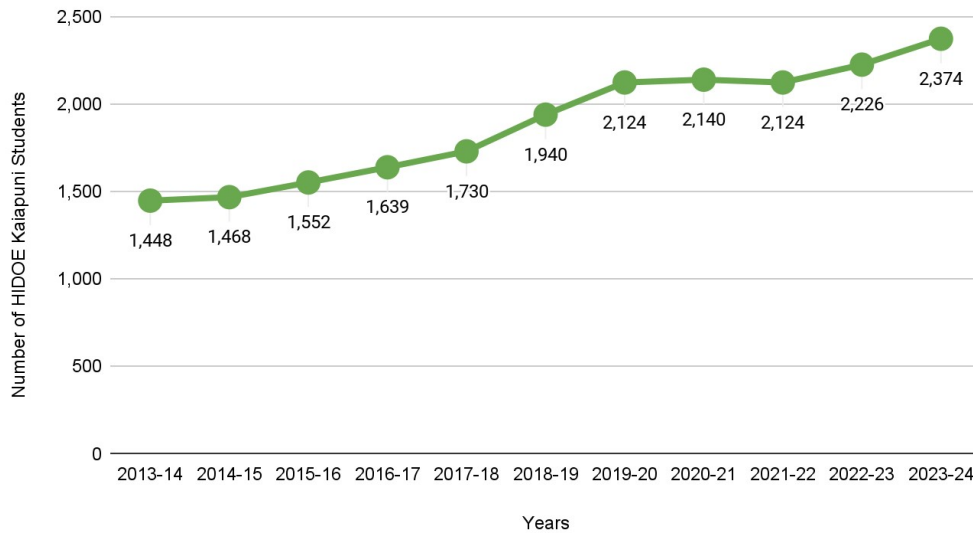
Department's Position:

Welina me ke aloha e nā lālā o ka 'Aha 'Ōlelo:

Kāko'o piha ka 'Oihana Ho'ona'auao o ke Aupuni Hawai'i ('Oihana) i ka pila HB 2074, HD2 SD1. He noi kēia no 10 kūlana kumu Kaiapuni hou a me 3 kūlana laekahi ho'ona'auao Kaiapuni. Ma nā makahiki he 'umi i hala iho nei, ua ulu nō ka papahana Kaiapuni ma ka 'Oihana, he 'ane'ane 1,000 hou a'e a i 2,374 haumāna e kula 'ia ana ma ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i a ua hemo 8 hou kula Kaiapuni a ka 'Oihana a i 22 kula Kaiapuni ma kekahi mau kaiāulu hou a'e.

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) fully supports HB 2074, HD2 SD1. The Department is requesting funding for 10 additional Kaiapuni teacher positions and 3 Kaiapuni Educational Specialist positions. In the past decade, the Department's Kaiapuni program enrollment has grown by almost 1,000 students to 2,374 students that are being educated in the medium of the Hawaiian language and 8 new schools in the Department to 22 schools in additional communities.

Growth of HIDOE Kaiapuni Enrollment in the Past Decade



Ua ulu a'e ka papahana Kaiapuni i nā makahiki he 'umi i hala iho nei: 'ane'ane 60% i ulu ai ka heluna kula Kaiapuni a me ka heluna haumāna. E ulu ana ka papahana i ka mālama 'ana i ko nā haumāna a me nā 'ohana 'imi ikaika 'ana i ka hiki ke kula 'ia ma ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i ma kekahi kula kokoke a i 'ole i loko o ko lākou kaiaulu, ka mea i koi 'ia e ka hihia Clarabal i ka 'Aha Ho'okolokolo Ki'eki'e Loa i ka makahiki 2019.

The Kaiapuni program has experienced a 60% increase in both the number of available Kaiapuni programs and the number of students enrolled in the program. The Kaiapuni program has been expanding in response to student and family demand as well as to provide "reasonable access to a Hawaiian immersion program" as required by the Clarabel case in the State Supreme Court in 2019.

He kōkua nui ka pu'u kālā pekelala a me ka pu'u kālā a ke Kia'āina e kāko'o ai i nā papahana ko'iko'i no ka papahana Kaiapuni i kēia mau makahiki i hala akula. E pau ana kēia mau waihona kālā ma ka hopena o kēia lune i ka wā e pau ai ka makahiki ho'olilo kālā a ka 'Oihana. Ko'iko'i kēia noi kālā 'Aha 'Ōlelo e ho'omau ai i nā papahana e kū nei a me ka ho'oulu 'ana i nā papahana no kēia makahiki kula a'e a ma 'ō aku.

Federal pandemic education funding and the Governor's discretionary funds provided critical support for Kaiapuni program development over the last few years. These funds conclude at the end of this fiscal year. Legislative funding is necessary to sustain existing programs and to expand growing programs for next year and beyond.

Paku'i pū 'ia ia noi kālā i loko o ka mo'olelo kālā kūhelu o ka 'Oihana Ho'ona'auao ke 'āpono mua 'ia na ka Papa Ho'ona'auao Hawai'i. Mahalo nui 'ia ka 'ae 'ana mai i kā mākou hō'ike 'ana i kēia mau mana'o.


This funding request is also included in the Department's budget request and has been previously approved by the Hawai'i Board of Education. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony.



'Aha Kauleo

STATEWIDE COUNCIL FOR KA PAPAĦANA KAIAPUNI

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Kananinohea Māka'imoku, Hope Luna Ho'omalū (Vice Chair) 
'Aha Kauleo, Papahana Kaiapuni (Hawaiian Language Immersion Program)
Statewide Advisory Council to the Office of Hawaiian Education

**RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education
Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024
IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1**

Aloha mai e nā po'o a me nā lālā o ka 'Aha'ōlelo,

The 'Aha Kauleo (AKL) is the statewide council for the Papahana Kaiapuni, which provides proactive leadership, direction, and advocacy for the development and growth of its Hawaiian medium schools and advises directly through the Office of Hawaiian Education (OHE) of the Department of Education (DOE). AKL consists of parent and teacher representatives per elementary (K-6), secondary grades (6-12) and/or from each Hawaiian medium education site, and a principal representative, along with representatives from the University of Hawaii Hilo and Manoa, Brigham Young University-Hawaii, University of Hawaii-Maui College, Aha Punana Leo, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Kamehameha Schools/Bishop Estate, and the Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center.

The 'Aha Kauleo is in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074** to appropriate funds to the Department of Education for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) curriculum specialist II positions and ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) classroom teacher positions for Ka Papahana Kaiapuni schools.

First and foremost, this bill will ensure that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, "The State shall promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history, and language," Article XV, Section 4, "English and Hawaiian shall be the official languages of Hawaii" (Hawaii State Constitution, 1978). Furthermore, the State of Hawaii has two language medium pathways, English and Hawaiian. Whereas the English medium pathway has access to an abundance of resources, including specialists, consultants, and a much larger pool of potential teachers, the Hawaiian medium pathway needs to grow its own expertise amongst its communities and educators. For example, the English medium pathway can and has recruited teachers from out

of state to fill teaching positions. Adding more Kaiapuni teachers and specialists to the pool that supports the Hawaiian medium pathway allows for collaboration amongst Hawaiian medium educators across the state's 29 Kaiapuni schools to expand expertise, curriculum, assessment, resource development, and other vital needs for Kaiapuni education.

Kaiapuni teachers are a distinct specialty area with the linguistic and cultural competencies to teach a range of content, all through the Hawaiian language and worldview. Currently, the DOE funds 35 teacher positions across the DOE's twenty-two Kaiapuni schools. In the last decade, the number of Kaiapuni schools increased by eight, and by nearly 1,000 students. Yet, the allocated teaching positions have remained the same. Due to the shortage of teaching positions, the DOE schools have been forced to turn away many families because of the lack of teachers. Of concern is that there are six complex areas, including one island, where the DOE is not providing access to Kaiapuni education.

We urge the committee to **PASS HB2074** to ensure equitable access to Kaiapuni education on all islands in Hawai'i's public schools and uphold guidelines outlined in BOE policy 105-8.

E OLA MAU KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I!!!



Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA) Support: HB2074 HD2 SD1

Thursday, April 4, 2024 10:15 a.m. Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Honorable Committee Members,

HAPA is testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2 SD1 - *Relating to Kaiapuni Education***. The statistics speak for themselves: with an increase of 8 Kaiapuni schools in the last decade and nearly 1,000 more students enrolled in Kaiapuni education programs, it's evident that there's a growing demand for resources and support in this area. Currently, the Department of Education funds only 35 teacher positions for 22 schools "statewide." This lack of adequate funding and staffing undermines the quality of education provided to Kaiapuni students and hampers their ability to thrive academically and culturally.

HB2074 HD2 SD1 is a crucial step in addressing these disparities and ensuring that Kaiapuni students receive the resources and support they deserve. By allocating additional funding for Kaiapuni education, this bill will enable schools to hire more teachers, develop culturally relevant curriculum, and provide essential resources to support language immersion and cultural enrichment programs.

Furthermore, investing in Kaiapuni education is not just a matter of educational equity; it's also a matter of cultural preservation and revitalization. For many indigenous communities, language is not just a means of communication but a vital component of cultural identity and heritage. By supporting Kaiapuni education, we are not only empowering students to succeed academically but also preserving and celebrating the rich cultural heritage of Hawaii.

Please support HB2074 HD2 SD1. By investing in Kaiapuni education, we are investing in the future of our communities and ensuring a more equitable and culturally responsive educational system for all students. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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

Anne Frederick
Executive Director

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2024 2:23:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anna Christine Cordero Leis	Testifying for parent at Ke Kula o 'Ehunuikaimalino	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

FROM: Anna Christine Leis
Ke Kula o 'Ehunuikaimalino (makua)

RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education
Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024
IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1

Aloha mai e na poo a me na lala o ka Aha Olelo,
My name is Anna Christine Leis and my husband Daniel Leis and I are parents of an 8th grader at the Hawaiian Immersion school in Kona, Ke Kula o 'Ehunuikaimalino (KKOE). In addition, I am a former mākuā representative for 'Aha Kauleo. I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.

Currently, public education has 2 language pathways- English and Hawaiian, as acknowledged in HIDOE strategic plan (pg 3). Yet, many families are turned away by DOE schools at registration for the kaiapuni school that is closest to them. At our own kula, KKOE, we have personally witnessed many 'ohana being turned away at the kindergarten level.

Please vote to PASS HB2074 HD2, SD1, to ensure equitable access to resources and education, specifically for Hawaiian immersion education on all islands in Hawai'i's public schools, and uphold guidelines set forth in BOE policy 105-8). This bill will ensure that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978).

In conclusion, our 'ohana urges the Committee to PASS HB2074 HD2, SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

me ke aloha nui,
'ohana Leis

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Wendy “Kalaekē” Akioka
Kumu/Makua, Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Kailua

**RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education
Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024
IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1**

Aloha mai e nā pua o ka wēkiu i ka ‘Aha ‘Ōlelo o ka pae‘āina nei,

Mai ka lā hiki mai a ke komohana, mai ka moa‘e aheahe a nā kona, aloha e nā hoa o nā kūkulu ‘ehā o ke ao! My name is Wendy Akioka, also known as Kumu Kalae in my community. My son graduated from a kaiapuni school, my daughter attends my school, Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Kailua, and my husband teaches at another kaiapuni school, Pū‘ōhala. I am also an active member of the ‘Aha Kauleo and the chair of the Hawaiian Education Committee for the HSTA. Needless to say, Hawaiian education and kaiapuni is a part of our ‘ohana and lifestyle.

I can provide a unique perspective, because I have worked in many capacities of the education system, from high school Hawaiian language teacher, to elementary kaiapuni teacher, to OHE resource teacher, to Early College Coordinator for kaiapuni under a grant at Windward Community College, back to high school kaiapuni teacher. I understand this system from various, unique perspectives.

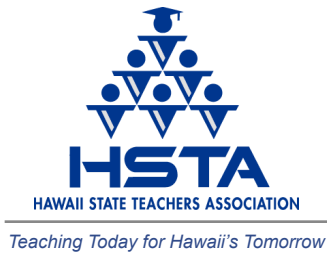
I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.**

SB2069 asks for three curriculum specialists. As someone who once worked at the HODOE’s Office of Hawaiian Education (OHE), where these positions would be housed, I know first-hand the daunting amount of work faced by the people there. The most difficult thing to do when working toward equity and restorative justice is to shift mindsets. The HODOE’s own strategic plan calls for this, however, without permanent positions to address it, they will find it difficult to meet that goal. The Department of Education needs more people at OHE to help them make decisions for the good of ALL, not for the good of the MOST. These are the voices that help us remind our friends at places like the Office of Talent Management what happens when they make sweeping rules that do not consider the effect of requirements on those in unique, rich, Hawaiian settings, people whose specializations help our students find themselves and make connections in a decidedly Western academic context.

Regarding the ten teaching positions proposed in the first section of this bill, I admit that this affects me directly. Ke Kula Kaiapuni o Kailua began nearly three years ago out of thin air. My former principal, Stacey Oshio, agreed to make it happen when asked by Phyllis Unebasami, then I came in and voila! We had a program. The importance of a program like mine to its community is to provide a Hawaiian language pathway for the second largest Native Hawaiian population on O‘ahu, that is for the Ko‘olau Poko area. It was only made possible because of the existing teacher positions from OHE, because when a new program starts up, there are rarely enough student numbers to support a teaching position under weighted student formula (WSF), especially at the high school level. In late 1990s to early 2000s, the HIDOE was given a set number of positions directly from the legislature because they recognized the burden the smaller numbers were placing on the programs and schools. However, since that time, the number of kaiapuni schools and programs have nearly doubled, yet OHE has not received any increase in positions to offset the growth. What happens now is that larger kaiapuni schools give up their positions in order to make room for programs like mine. The increase in 10 positions would ensure that I do not have to take from someone else to exist.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee to **PASS** HB2074 HD2, SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

E OLA MAU KA ‘ŌLELO HAWAI‘I!!!



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

Osa Tui, Jr.
President

Logan Okita
Vice President

Lisa Thompson
Secretary-Treasurer

Ann Mahi
Executive Director

TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAII SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Item: **HB2074 HD2 SD1 - Relating to kaiapuni education**
Position: **Support**
Hearing: **April 4, 2024, 10:15 a.m., Conference Room 211**
Submitter: **Osa Tui, Jr. – President, Hawai'i State Teachers Association**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association **supports** HB2074 HD2 SD1 which appropriates funds to the Department of Education for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) Kaiapuni education curriculum specialist II positions and ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) Kaiapuni classroom teacher positions.

We know that the Hawaiian language is an official language of the State of Hawai'i. As an official state language, the state has an obligation to support the growth and use of Hawaiian. Currently, the state funds 28 kaiapuni (Hawaiian immersion) schools statewide. The state has also made a promise to increase access to Hawaiian language to all keiki in Hawai'i.

Although promises have been made and documented, the state still has failed to create a sustainable, measurable plan to expand the Hawaiian language to all our students. Although we have 28 kaiapuni schools in Hawai'i, only 15 of these schools have a pipeline to graduation. In addition, at most, only 39 English medium schools offer Hawaiian as a world language.

It is imperative to grow our own Hawaiian language speakers throughout the state so that there is a consistent pipeline of Hawaiian language speakers. These native speakers will be able to fill the critical shortage areas where the Hawaiian language is being taught.

To ensure that 'olelo Hawai'i is never endangered again and those opportunities to learn the Hawaiian language are available for all keiki in Hawai'i, the Hawai'i State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

TO:

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM:

Brandi Cutler
Hui Makua O Pū'ōhala

RE:

**HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education
Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024
IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1**

Aloha mai e na poo a me na lala o ka Aha Olelo,

My name is Brandi Cutler and I am the vice president of Hui Makua O Pū'ōhala.

I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1** - *Relating to Kaiapuni Education*.

Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Pū'ōhala (KKOP), established over 30 years ago, is a growing kaiapuni in Kāne'ōhe. KKOP consistently has to deal with lack of staff and curriculum. Our class sizes are too large, with far too few kumu for the number of students. KKOP is part of the growing Hawaiian immersion program throughout Hawai'i: there has been an increase of 8 kaiapuni schools and there has been an increase in students by almost 1,000 in the past 10 years. And yet the DOE only funds 35 teacher positions across the state for 22 schools. The students, kumu, and community of Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Pū'ōhala deserve the support from the Department of Education for equitable education.

HB2074 ensures that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978). It also ensures equitable access to resources and education specifically for Hawaiian immersion education in Hawai'i's public schools.

On behalf of Hui Makua O Pū'ōhala I urge the Committee to **PASS** HB2074 HD2, SD1.
Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

E OLA MAU KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I!!!

Inoa (Name)	City	Zip
Kahuanani Kalua-Ching	Ewa Beach	96706
Kaihilani Wong	'Ewa Beach	96706
Kystassia glover	Waianae	96792
Nele Horpin	Waianae	96792
Kulia Horpin	Waianae	96792
Karla Horpin	Waianae	96792
Nelekulia	Waianae	96792
Tweetie Horpin	Waianae	96792
Jessie Horpin	Waianae	96792
Jianni Horpin	Waianae	96792
Kuali Mesberg	Waianae	96792
Kekuamakana Lewis	Honolulu	96816
Danny Ka'aiali'i	Honolulu	96816
Jaylene Kaleimamahu	Honolulu	96816
Keonilei F Lealiifano	Honolulu	96821
Celine Cumberlander	'Ewa Beach	96706
Kade Yam-Lum	Ewa	96706
Lisette Yamase	Ewa	96706
Lāpule Schultz	Ewa Beach	96706
Leona Pi`imanu	Ewa Beach	96706
La`akea Bertulfo	Ewa Beach	96706
Nadine Ortega	Ewa Beach	96706
Rheann Aki	Ewa Beach	96706
Dara Tuitama	Kapolei	96707
Chyanne Cabrera	Kapolei	96707
Kealani Makaiwi	Kapolei	96707
Ku`uleilani Reyes	Kaaawa	96730
Pua Pinto	Kailua	96734
Joan craft	Kailua	96734
Gail Leilani Kamalani	Kaneohe	96744
Kaulana Vares	Kaneohe	96745
Andrea Dias-Machado	Pearl City	96782
Sheylyn Vasconcellos	Pearl City	96782
Anisa Pacapac-Marquez	Waianae	96792
Kahaunani Glover	Waianae	96792
Meagan Kimsel	Waianae	96792
Brandy Pumehana Henderson-De	Waianae	96792
Keli'i Makua	Waimanalo	96795
Francesca Au	Waimanalo	96795
Keala Pi`imanu	Waimea	96796
Shawna Santos	Honolulu	96813
Tony Conjugacion	Honolulu	96813
Caleana Duffey-Spikes	Honolulu	96813
Jasmine Morisako-Smith	Honolulu	96814
Nicole Cruz	Honolulu	96814
Kanani Cruz	Honolulu	96814
Anne Au	Honolulu	96815
Cindy Oliveira	Honolulu	96816
Moani Lee	Honolulu	96816
Kamana'o Ku	Honolulu	96816
Latasha Feary	Honolulu	96816
J. English	Honolulu	96816
Pua Perkins	Honolulu	96816

Angel Cheng	Honolulu	96816
Laura Rose Reichhardt	Honolulu	96816
Nalani Balutski	Ewa	96817
H. Melelani Pang	Honolulu	96817
Van Velasco	Honolulu	96817
Angleak Kuuipo Dumancus	Honolulu	96818
Darren Amoe	Honolulu	96818
Ka'ikena Amoe	Honolulu	96818
Nikki Arakawa	Honolulu	96819
Iokepa Bagood	Honolulu	96819
Brigitte Lucey	Honolulu	96819
Cheyenne Kalama	Honolulu	96822
Kahele Cruz	Honolulu	96825
Leimomi Ka'aihili Leong	Honolulu	96825
Tiffany Canonigo-Ong	Honolulu	96825

Name	City	State	Postal Code	Country	Signed On
Nā Leo Kākoʻo o Oʻahu Hui Mākua				US	1/30/2024
Logan Johnasen Halas	Kaneohe	HI	96744	US	1/30/2024
Catherine Yanagi	Honolulu	HI	96816	US	1/30/2024
Kalena Ann Kai	waianae	HI	96792	US	1/30/2024
Cruz Kahele	Honolulu	HI	96825	US	1/30/2024
Kekuamakana Lewis	Honolulu	HI	96813	US	1/30/2024
Tony Conjugacion	Honolulu	HI	96813	US	1/30/2024
Orlando Marques Neto	Honolulu	HI	96825	US	1/30/2024
Pete Doktor	Honolulu	HI	96819	US	1/30/2024
Michel Emerick	Honolulu	HI	96818	US	1/30/2024
Leticia Montes	Honolulu	HI	96825	US	1/30/2024
Jaylene Kaleimamahu	Honolulu	HI	96816	US	1/30/2024
Lāpule Schultz	Honolulu	HI	96822	US	1/30/2024
Loke Kimsel	Waianae	HI	96792	US	1/30/2024
Kystassia Glover	Honolulu	HI	96819	US	1/30/2024
Roberta Rabelo	Worcester	MA	1603	US	1/30/2024
Brandi Ahlo	Honolulu	HI	96826	US	1/30/2024
Brandy Henderson-De Ramos	Waianae	HI	96792	US	1/30/2024
Mailikapu Heanu	Honolulu	HI	96813	US	1/30/2024
Kade Yam-Lum	Kapolei	HI	96707	US	1/30/2024
Rheann Aki	Kapolei	HI	96707	US	1/30/2024
Jaylene English	Honolulu	HI	96816	US	1/30/2024
Raquel Kealalōkahi Aki	Honolulu	HI	96819	US	1/30/2024
Evelyn Kaba	Kailua	HI	96734	US	1/30/2024
Noel Shaw	Honolulu	HI	96814	US	1/30/2024
Andrea Brosch Palma	Kailua	HI	96734	US	1/30/2024
Kamakahukilani Plunkett	Hauula	HI	96717	US	1/30/2024
Keku Tauala	Waianae		96792	US	1/30/2024
Mackenzie Plunkett	Kaaawa	HI	96730	US	1/30/2024
Darin Lucey	'Ewa Beach	HI	96706	US	1/30/2024
Uilani Plunkett	Honolulu	HI	96817	US	1/30/2024
Kealani Makaiwi	Kapolei	HI	96707	US	1/30/2024
Daniel Mahi	Mililani Town	HI	96789	US	1/30/2024
Ana Ladeia	Honolulu	HI	96717	US	1/30/2024
kanani Cruz	Anaheim	CA	92802	US	1/30/2024
Kaulana Vares	Honolulu	HI	96821	US	1/30/2024
Angleak Dumancus	Honolulu	HI	96818	US	1/30/2024
Jennifer Santos	Kapolei	HI	96707	US	1/30/2024
Justin Santos	Ewa Beach	HI	96706	US	1/30/2024
Nathan Nahina	wahiawa	HI	96786	US	1/30/2024
Renee Price	Ewa Beach	HI	96706	US	1/31/2024
Ana Colen	'Ewa Beach	HI	96706	US	1/31/2024
Bonnie Kalei Nakamura	Honolulu	HI	96826	US	1/31/2024
Jennifer Thomson	Keaāau	HI	96749	US	1/31/2024
Brandon Kalua-Ching	Honolulu	HI	96817	US	1/31/2024
Vanessa Sacho	Sydney		2161	Australia	1/31/2024

Rebekah Walker	Hauula	HI	96717 US	1/31/2024
Lila Mae Lelepali	La'ie	HI	96762 US	1/31/2024
Lorinda Riley	Honolulu	HI	96816 US	1/31/2024
Isabelle V	Leominster	MA	1453 US	1/31/2024
Bruna Lomba Alves de Oliveir	Honolulu	HI	96817 US	1/31/2024
Alanna Eicher	Miami	FL	33018 US	1/31/2024
Kamanawa Revilla	Honolulu	HI	96819 US	1/31/2024
pricila nascimento	Honolulu	HI	96815 US	1/31/2024
Aline Rodrigues	Fontana	CA	92335 US	1/31/2024
Fabio Jesus	Los Angeles	CA	90034 US	1/31/2024
Dhalia Jennings	Honolulu	HI	96825 US	1/31/2024
Elaine Gaspar	Honolulu	HI	96818 US	1/31/2024
Shawn Steiman	Honolulu	HI	96816 US	1/31/2024
Leimomi Ka'aihili Leong	Honolulu	HI	96822 US	1/31/2024
Robyn Tasaka	Mililani	HI	96789 US	1/31/2024
Kawailani Dutro	Honolulu	HI	96826 US	1/31/2024
Jilleina Winchester	Honolulu	HI	96813 US	1/31/2024

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2024 11:56:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca Kapolei Kiili	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha pumehana kākou members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing to **urge** the committee to fund **HB 2074 HD 2** to increase teacher positions and curriculum specialists for the Hawai‘i Department of Education’s (HIDOE) Office of Hawaiian Education (OHE) whose budget supports the Hawaiian Language Immersion Program (HLIP) also called Ka Papahana Kaiapuni. I trust that the committee knows the history of public schools very well and recognizes that our schooling system was a Hawaiian Language system for many, many years. And that it was through the efforts of our political and educational leaders that Hawaiian Language was reinstated into our public school system. **Thirty eight years later**, we are experiencing an increase in student enrollment across many communities in our state. The need is clearly evident and funding is critical.

My name is Rebecca Kapolei Kiili and I am a public school teacher for the HLIP at King Kekaulike High School (KKHS) in Pukalani, Maui. I am in my 19th year of teaching and have spent 5 years in elementary and spent the rest of my career helping to strengthen the high school immersion program. When I first entered this level in 2010, there was a severe lack of curriculum for high school immersion students, which left me having to develop my own entirely. At that time, there were only 2 teacher positions and while the enrollment numbers were smaller, the amount of courses that each teacher taught were beyond our contractual duties. I had to work to create curriculum and assessments for 7 subject areas in one school year. It was daunting for sure and I did the best that I could given the lack of resources, including time and money.

Today, we have 5 teacher positions at KKHS and our numbers are growing steadily each year. The need for teacher positions and curriculum specialists are vital to ensure that our students have a highly qualified teacher along with quality curriculum, instruction, and assessments. Everyone knows that investing in a child’s education is key to that child’s success in life. When the educational foundation is strong, students develop into well adjusted citizens who contribute to our community in ways that are positive and progressive. Students are less dependent on social services to live and thrive because their compulsory education has enriched their lives and given them the skills they need to succeed: confidence, esteem, efficacy, curiosity and tenacity.

Kula Kaiapuni programs not only strive to have our students academically ready for college, but also community and career ready. We work to provide them with rich cultural experiences in language, culture, and values that develop the whole child so that they become great citizens of

our community. Our matriculation rates as well as our college going rates exceed those of non-Kaiapuni students. Students learn how to work with diverse peer groups throughout their whole life and how to create community through their parent organization. Our Kaiapuni families are strongly rooted in Hawai'i and add so much value to the larger communities. This program is truly an exceptional model for education, and most especially Hawaiian education, in Hawai'i, for all of Hawai'i.

Investing in Kaiapuni today through **HB 2074 HD2** demonstrates our state's commitment to the value that we all seek to add to our communities by way of high quality education. **I strongly urge the committee to fund this bill.** The intent of this bill is to ensure that the next generation of Kaiapuni learners have the resources they need and deserve to become Hawai'i's citizens of the future. Invest in our children, invest in Hawai'i, invest in our public education system.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and funding Kaiapuni programs to provide the resources they need and deserve.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Kapolei Kiili, Ed.D.

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2024 8:40:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noel Shaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm writing in support of HB2074 SD1. Please truly commit to supporting our Kula Kaiapuni by providing additional funds so more staff can be in the classrooms and developing curriculum.

Since the 1970 resurgence of the Hawaiian lanague in our school systems after it was banned after the illegal overthrow, the Kaiapuni schools have been under resourced.

More families are interested in pursuing this educational route as well to restore the lanague within their own households after it was taken away.

Please take note of the context upon which this request for support is being made. Please take note that there's still lots to be done to have our Kaiapuni equitablity and justly supported.

Mahalo,

Noel

TO:

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM:

Brandi Cutler, makua of haumana at Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Pū'ōhala

RE:

**HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education
Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024
IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1**

Aloha mai e na poo a me na lala o ka Aha Olelo,

My name is Brandi Cutler and I am a mother to two students at Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Pū'ōhala (KKOP).

I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1** - *Relating to Kaiapuni Education*.

My two children are thriving because of Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Pū'ōhala. Their kula kaiapuni, established over 30 years ago, is growing and yet is constantly challenged by lack of staffing. The class sizes are always far too big; their kumu are stretched far too thin. KKOP is part of the growing Hawaiian immersion program throughout Hawai'i: there has been an increase of 8 kaiapuni schools and there has been an increase in students by almost 1,000 in the past 10 years. The students, kumu, and community of Ke Kula Kaiapuni O Pū'ōhala deserve the support from the Department of Education for equitable education.

HB2074 HD2, SD1 ensures that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978). It also ensures equitable access to resources and education specifically for Hawaiian immersion education in Hawai'i's public schools.

I urge the Committee to **PASS** HB2074 HD2, SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

E OLA MAU KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I!!!

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2024 10:00:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrea K. Malohi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

FROM: A. Ku'ulei'awapuhi Malohi

RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education

Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024

IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1

Aloha mai e na poo a me na lala o ka Aha Olelo,

My name is A. Ku'ulei'awapuhi Malohi and I am a makua of 6 keiki kaiapuni and supporter of 'Aha Kauleo

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.

- There has been an increase in students in the past 10 years by almost 1,000 students.
- This bill will ensure that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978).
- Public education has 2 language pathways- English and Hawaiian. Acknowledged in HIDOE strategic plan (pg 3)

In conclusion, know there are many mā• kua like me who support kaiapuni education because we always wished it for ourselves, but it didn't exist when we were kids. I urge the Committee to PASS HB2074 HD2, SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

E OLA MAU KA 'OLELO HAWAI'I!!!

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2024 10:14:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kyle Kolomona Nakatsuka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui kakou, he wahi kama keia no Nu'uuanu e ho'ike nei i ko'u kako'o nui no keia pila.

HB2074 will provide critical state funding to retain 13 teaching positions in kula Kaiapuni (Hawaiian immersion schools) that will otherwise disappear for the 24-25 school year when COVID era funding expires. Please pass this bill so our Keiki do not lose the 13 locally grown, locally educated teachers. We are in the midst of a severe shortage of teachers, and the Kaiapuni program already challenges its small teaching staff to go far above and beyond the demands that ordinary teachers are asked to do. Please make the necessary concessions to ensure this bill passes during this year's legislative session.

I am a former kumu kula kaiapuni (Hawaiian immersion school teacher) writing in strong support of this bill because of what it will do to alleviate the uniquely challenging burden that Hawaiian immersion school teachers face. Hawaiian immersion school teachers are grossly overburdened in their teaching positions because there are simply not enough teaching positions for the job. This is the result of several unique issues facing Hawaiian immersion schools, listed below:

- 1) the small size and high demand for Hawaiian immersion schools means that teachers often handle very full classrooms, often in the high 20's per class.
- 2) there is a severe shortage of curricula and teaching materials in Hawaiian language, and existing materials are often outdated, so teachers spend a disproportionate amount of time developing their own teaching materials.
- 3) many Secondary/Subject teachers are stretched thin teaching multiple subjects or handling far more classes than any typical HODOE teacher ever would.

I was introduced to the overwhelming burden faced by Hawaiian immersion school teachers when I worked as a Part-Time teacher at Ke Kula 'o Anuenue in Palolo, O'ahu. The high school science teacher at the time had to teach four subjects - Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Plants and Animals of Hawai'i - for the entire 9-12 grade. There were only textbooks for three of the four courses, but it had been translated from an English textbook over 20 years ago, meaning that both the content and language in the text were outdated. The textbook did not come with lesson materials. As a casual hire Part-Time teacher, I lightened the full-time science teacher's load by teaching one of the four subjects, but even then, sometimes there was simply not enough time for

either of us to develop teaching materials for lessons each day, and the same lessons were sometimes repeated across multiple subjects.

In any other school, there would be four teachers, one for each subject, but at this Hawaiian immersion school, one single teacher bore the overwhelming burden of teaching four different subjects. Students' learning suffered as a consequence. At the same time, teachers in lower grades at Anuenue frequently had class sizes that were far too big - as many as 29 students - because of the huge and unmet demand for Hawaiian immersion education in Elementary school. The teaching positions added by this bill would go far to alleviate the overwhelming teaching load that immersion teachers uniquely face.

When I taught secondary science at another Hawaiian immersion school, I was responsible for teaching the science for all of 7-12 grade. This meant I faced a similar challenge of teaching multiple subjects. Because it was my first year teaching full time, I often needed help, but who were the educational support staff designated to help? They were also themselves teachers or administrators who were also overburdened for the same reasons I was. I found myself avoiding seeking help because I did not want to add to their burden, but my teaching praxis suffered as a result, students received a worse education, and I became burned out as a teacher. The curriculum specialist positions proposed by this bill would be an enormous gift that would go far to solve the problems I faced as a kumu kula kaiapuni.

I strongly urge you to move this bill forward and support similar legislation in the future in support of Ka Papahana Kaiapuni in Hawai'i. The kula kaiapuni in Hawai'i are a critical site where we can undo the historical wrongdoings that resulted in the near loss of our language and moreover offer a place to rediscover Hawaiian knowledge and perspectives. The place-based and culturally grounded education that takes place in our schools have been proven in research and practice to improve the education of our students and can serve as a model for other schools. But a prerequisite for this to happen is sufficient staffing for our unique schools' unique needs. Mahalo nui no kau kako'o i keia holomua no ko Hawai'i.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this testimony,
Kyle Kolomona Nakatsuka
kylekolomona@gmail.com

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 7:18:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lei K Ayat-Verdadero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kaiapuni Testimony

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means &

Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Lei Ayat-Verdadero

RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024 IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1

Aloha mai e na po‘o a me na lala o ka Aha ‘Ōlelo,

My name is Lei Ayat-Verdadero. I am a supporter and Native Hawaiian.

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.

Support is needed for several reasons including:

*There has been an increase in students in the past 10 years by almost 1,000 students.

*Many families are turned away by DOE schools at registration for the kaiapuni school that is closest to them.

*There are still 6 complex areas including 1 island that the DOE is not providing access to kaiapuni education.

This bill will ensure that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978).

Ensure equitable access to resources and education specifically for Hawaiian immersion education on all islands in Hawai‘i’s public schools, and uphold guidelines set forth in BOE policy 105-8

Public education has 2 language pathways- English and Hawaiian. Acknowledged in HIDOE strategic plan (pg 3)

DOE strategic plan Priority II: High Quality Educator Workforce in All Schools. We need more positions to support the education of students. In conclusion, I urge the Committee to PASS HB2074 HD2, SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support,

Lei Ayat-Verdadero,

E OLA MAU KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I!!!

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 7:43:56 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl burghardt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT HB 2074 HD2 SD1 which appropriates funds to the Department of Education for the establishment of three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) Kaiapuni education curriculum specialist II positions and ten full-time equivalent (10.0 FTE) Kaiapuni classroom teacher positions. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Funding Kaiapuni curriculum is necessary for many reasons including the DOE's in consistent understanding of the place in which we are located, Hawai'i. This funding is important for continuing the positive work that the Kaiapuni educational paths have on our entire community in Hawai'i. Mahalo for supporting this bill and the keiki and communities of our islands.

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 8:14:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shelly Tokunaga May	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Moriwaki and the Committee on Ways and Means

I am strongly in support of HB2074 HD2 SD1. I am a parent with keiki who have attended Pūnana Leo and Kaiapuni. I believe that families in Hawai‘i should be given the opportunity and full support to a Kaiapuni Education. As the only place in the world that can provide this kind of education, it is imperative that we have enough trained teachers and quality curriculum. This is the same expectation that we want for all keiki in Hawai‘i regardless of primary language. Kaiapuni education has grown over the generation and now needs the additional support as more families opt to send their children to these schools across the state.

I urge you to pass HB2074.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Shelly Tokunaga May, LSW, EdD

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 9:06:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joylynn Paman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Joylynn Paman
Kula Kaiapuni Parent

RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education

Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024

IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1

Aloha mai e na poo a me na lala o ka Aha Olelo,

My name is Joylynn Paman and I am parent and past parent representative on the ‘Aha Kauleo.

I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.**

Here are the reasons that my family strongly supports HB2074 HD2, SD1:

1. Enrollment within the Kaiapuni system has escalated greatly and quickly and we need the kumu (teachers) to accommodate this exponential growth
2. It is our right to provide Kaiapuni education to all who want it and this bill will ensure that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978).
3. Ensure equitable access to resources and education specifically for Hawaiian immersion education on all islands in Hawai'i's public schools, and uphold guidelines set forth in BOE policy 105-8
4. Public education has 2 language pathways- English and Hawaiian. Acknowledged in HIDOE strategic plan (pg 3)
5. DOE strategic plan Priority II: High Quality Educator Workforce in All Schools. We need more positions to support the education of students.

In conclusion, I urge the Committee to **PASS** HB2074 HD2, SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

E OLA MAU KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I!!!

Joylynn Paman

LATE

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 10:22:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dana Tanigawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Dana Tanigawa

RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education

Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024

IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1

Aloha mai e nā po‘o a me nā lālā o ka ‘Aha ‘Ōlelo,

My name is Dana Tanigawa and I am from Kalauao, O‘ahu.

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.

Kaiapuni education continues to grow and funding needs to grow in order to continue to support students, teachers, and families. Over the last ten years, eight new kaiapuni schools have started as well as an increase of almost 1,000 students. Families continue to be turned away when wanting to register their children. This bill will ensure equitable access to resources and education for Hawaiian immersion education in the state according to BOE policy 105-8 and ensure the state upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawai‘i State Constitution. Hawai‘i is a dual language state and more resources are needed to support Hawaiian language education.

Schools need more teacher positions as new schools start and more students enroll. Schools also need more support with curriculum, instruction, and assessment, which the three curriculum specialists will help address.

In conclusion, I am in strong support of HB2074 HD2, SD1. I urge the Committee to PASS HB2074 HD2, SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

E OLA MAU KA 'ŌLELO HAWAI'I!!!

KULA KAIAPUNI HAWAI'I 'O KAHUKU ACADEMY
56-490 Kamehameha Highway
Kahuku, Hawai'i 96731

LATE

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: H. KA'UMEALANI K. WALK
Kumu Kaiapuni

**RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education
Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024
IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1**

DATE: 'Apelila 3, 2024, Pō'akolu

Aloha mai e nā po'o a me nā nā lālā o ke Kōmike Ways & Means,

I am Ka'umealani Walk, a kupunawahine residing in Lā'ie, Ko'olauloa who has many mo'opuna today in Kaiapuni Education. All of my children, their parents, have been students in and have benefitted greatly from Kaiapuni Education. I continue to serve as a kumu in the Kula Kaiapuni Hawai'i 'o Kahuku Academy (Hawaiian Language Immersion program at Kahuku) on the campus of Kahuku High & Intermediate. I also serve as a member of the 'Aha Kauleo Advisory Council.

I *STRONGLY SUPPORT* of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education.

I strongly support HB2074 HD2, SD1 for the following reasons:

- There has been an increase in students in the past 10 years by almost 1,000 students.
- This bill will ensure that the State upholds its constitutional responsibility to Article X, Section 4, and Article XV, Section 4 of the Hawaii State Constitution (1978).
- Ensure equitable access to resources and education specifically for Hawaiian immersion education on all islands in Hawai'i's public schools, and uphold guidelines set forth in BOE policy 105-8

As such, ***STRONGLY SUPPORT*** of HB2074 HD2, SD1 and urge the Committee to PASS this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support!

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 11:39:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support for our Olelo Hawaiian haumana & kumu

LATE

LATE

HB-2074-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2024 1:24:02 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Robert Kai Irwin, Hale Kuamo‘o Hawaiian Language Center

RE: HB2074_HD2, SD1 Relating to Kaiapuni Education Decision Making Meeting on April 4, 2024 IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1

Aloha nui ‘oukou e nā alaka‘i na‘auao o ke kōmike ho‘okō o ka ‘aha kenekoa o ka moku‘āina o Hawai‘i!

My name is Robert Kai Iriwin and I am Hawaiian language curriculum and program developer as well as a community member and supporter of the ‘Aha Kauleo.

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2074 HD2, SD1 - Relating to Kaiapuni Education. As a curriculum, book, and professional development developer for kaiapuni students, teachers, families, and schools, as well as a former kaiapuni grade K-12 teacher at three schools for more than 10 years, and a non-Hawaiian member of the modern Hawaiian language revitalization movement, I have a front row seat to the amazing accomplishments, and near-impossible challenges, of many aspects of delivering, improving, growing, and sustaining Hawaiian medium public education over the past 30 years. I can state unhesitatingly and with full conviction that this bill is direly needed to sustain kaiapuni education for the following three reasons (and many more):

- This bill will support equitable access to resources and education specifically for Hawaiian immersion education on all islands in Hawai'i's public schools, and uphold guidelines set forth in BOE policy 105-8
- Public education has 2 language pathways- English and Hawaiian. Acknowledged in HIDOE strategic plan (pg 3) – the Hawaiian pathway is far from equitable and full funding.
- DOE strategic plan Priority II: High Quality Educator Workforce in All Schools. We need more positions to support the education of students.

The need for more kaiapuni DOE teacher positions is urgent, compelling, and supported by a groundswell of families hungry for Hawaiian language- and culture-based kaiapuni education for their children. I urge the Committee to PASS HB2074 HD2, SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support.

I ka 'aha 'ōlelo ka ola – e ho'okō 'oukou me ka na'auao!!

Petition of Support for [SB2069](#) / [HB2074](#)
32nd Legislative Session of the State of Hawaii, 2024

[SB2069](#) / [HB2074](#) asks the legislature to increase the amount of teaching positions and curriculum specialists to address the experienced growth of Kaiapuni education. These resources are needed to:

- Meet increased demand for access to Hawaiian language public education programming.
- New program/sites
- FTEs for new teacher positions
- Classroom materials and equipment

Provide expertise to promote: Kaiapuni pedagogy training; Curriculum development; Support for Kaiapuni teacher growth; An increase in qualified teacher candidates.

We, the undersigned support [SB2069](#) / [HB2074](#) which seeks to increase the amount of teaching positions and curriculum specialists to address the experienced growth of Kaiapuni education

	Inoa Name	Helu Wahi Address
1	Gandharva Mahina Hou Ross	P .O. Box 1461 Kaunakakai Hi 96748
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