



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 2682, RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE REVOLVING FUND AND THE HAWAIIAN EARLY LEARNING TRUST FUND.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

DATE: Friday, February 23, 2024 **TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 308 and Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Candace J. Park, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

This bill, titled "Relating to the Hawaiian Language College Revolving Fund and the Hawaiian Early Learning Trust Fund": (1) amends section 304A-2270, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to authorize the Hawaiian Language College Revolving Fund to accept revenue from any source, including training and personal development, evaluation services, sale of products, translation services, and consultation; and to indicate that the revenue deposited into the Hawaiian Language College Revolving Fund may not be limited by the University of Hawai'i, provided that the total of any individual deposit shall not exceed \$499,999.00; and (2) amends section 304A-2356, HRS, to authorize the University of Hawai'i at Hilo to expend moneys from the Hawaiian Early Learning Trust Fund for purposes of the Hawaiian language medium education pathway, including support for the University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Imiloa Center and the Hawaiian Language College; and to indicate that the revenue deposited into the Hawaiian Early Learning Trust Fund shall not be limited by the University of Hawai'i, provided that the total of any individual deposit shall not exceed \$499,999.00.

Article III, section 14, of the Hawai'i Constitution, provides in pertinent part that "[e]ach law shall embrace but one subject, which shall be expressed in its title." As indicated in the bill's title and in the bill's content, this bill embraces two separate

subjects, the (1) the Hawaiian Language College Revolving Fund, established by section 304A-2270, HRS, and (2) the Hawaiian Early Learning Trust Fund, established by section 304A-2356, HRS. Consequently, this bill is subject to a challenge of violating the single subject requirement and being constitutionally invalid. The Department recommends that this bill be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



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 Finance
Friday, February 23, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

By
Bonnie Irwin, Chancellor

HB 2682 – RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE REVOLVING
FUND AND THE HAWAIIAN EARLY LEARNING TRUST FUND

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of the CONTENT of HB 2682. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) supports the substance of HB 2682, which seeks to expand the scope of the two accounts supporting the collaborative efforts of the UH Hilo 'Imiloa Astronomy Center and the UH Hilo College of Hawaiian language, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani.

Given the constitutional concerns however with the title of this bill brought to light by the Attorney General, we suggest using HB 2684 HD1 as the vehicle to accomplish the intent of this bill. Our testimony for HB 2684 HD1 includes our suggested amendments to effectuate that outcome.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2682.



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Ka Papa Alaka'i

Dr. Kēhaulani
'Aipia-Peters,
Pelekikena

Kēhaulani Shintani,
Hope Pelekikena

Kyla Manzano
Kākau 'Ōlelo

Leilani Ka'apuni,
Pu'ukū

Kamalei Hayes

Dr. Kauanoe
Kamanā

Nāmaka Rawlins

Dr. Pila Wilson

Kayla Asing

'Ānela Freitas

No 'Ane'i Ko
Kākou Ola!

Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: 02-23-2024
Time: 10:00am
Location: Conference Room 309

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

HB 2682, RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE REVOLVING FUND AND THE HAWAIIAN EARLY LEARNING TRUST FUND **STRONGLY SUPPORT**

E nā Po'o Kōmike a me nā Lālā Kōmike o ka Mālama Kālā, aloha nui kākou

My name is Dr. Kēhaulani 'Aipia-Peters, and I am the Governing Board Chair of Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'ū Iki, Laboratory Public Charter School. I am providing written testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 2682.

We, the governing board of Nāwahī, **STRONGLY SUPPORT** HB 2682 that provides that the Hawaiian language college revolving fund may include moneys from any revenue source. This bill also provides that the fund and the Hawaiian early learning trust fund shall support the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center, and establishes a cap on individual deposits into the Hawaiian language college revolving fund and the Hawaiian early learning trust fund.

Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'ū is a laboratory school program of Ka Haka 'Ula o Ke'elikōlani, the Hawaiian Language college at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. These proposed changes to the Hawaiian language college revolving fund ensure the continuance of our progress in Hawaiian Medium education and language revitalization. These changes also address the need for strategic support to address the distinctiveness of Hawaiian language medium education and its continued progress from early learning through post-secondary education.

The passage of HB 2682 indicates an awareness of the significance of the Hawaiian language college at the University of Hawaii at Hilo as they address the needs of and ensure the forward progress of Hawaiian language medium education.

Mahalo,

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



Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u

"No 'Ane'i Ko Kākou Ola"

22 February 2024

Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: 02-23-2024

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Conference Room 308

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

HB2683, RELATING ACCESS TO LEARNING **SUPPORT**

E ka Luna Ho'omalū Yamashita, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalū Kitagawa a me nā lālā Kōmike Kālā, Aloha pumehana kākou,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT of the CONTENT** of HB 2682. Ke Kula 'O Nāwahīokalani'ōpu'u supports the substance of HB 2682, which seeks to expand the scope of the two accounts supporting the collaborative efforts of the UH Hilo 'Imiloa Astronomy Center ('Imiloa) and the UH Hilo College of Hawaiian language, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani (KH'UOK).

Given the constitutional concerns, however with the title of this bill brought to light by the Attorney General, we suggest and support using another bill as the vehicle that would allow for this expansion of the scope of the two accounts.

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

Me ka mahalo 'oia'i'o,

Dr. Kauanoe Kamanā
Director, Principal

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 2:56:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 2:57:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha e Chair, Vice Chair, a me Committee Members,

As a makua of 2 keiki in Hawaiian Immersion School I support all funding to continue to provide additional opportunities to our Native Hawaiian Language and Cultural programs. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo nui loa,

Shannon M.

Ola'a Resident

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 3:21:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Kāko‘o HB2682

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 3:47:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Davielynn Briones | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

As a makua of 3 keiki who are currently attending Hawaiian Immersion schools, I support this bill!

E ola ka 'ōlelo Hawai'i.

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 3:59:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kristen Pacheco | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support HB2682 as a mother in a household that speaks 'Ōlelo Hawai'i and have keiki that attend Nāwahī.

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 4:03:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha mai kākou,

As a parent of a Hawaiian language medium education student, I support this bill!

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 4:17:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Andrew Taeoalii | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Mahalo for the consideration I strongly support this bill and have seen the benefits to our community.

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 5:08:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Diane Mokuhalii | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 6:49:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair

Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Date of Hearing: Friday, February 23, 2024

Time: 10:00am

Location: House conference room 308

Via Video conference

Testimony of Kēhaulani Medeiros

HB2682, Relating to the Hawaiian language college revolving fund and the Hawaiian early learning trust fund. *Provides that the Hawaiian language college revolving fund may include monies from any revenue source. Provides that the fund and the Hawaiian early learning trust fund shall support the 'Imiloa astronomy center. Establishes a cap on individual deposits into the Hawaiian language college revolving fund and the Hawaiian early learning trust fund.*

KĀKO‘O, STRONGLY SUPPORT

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 8:28:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jesse P Neumann | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/21/2024 8:47:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of HB2682. Mahalo!

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/22/2024 5:58:38 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Moiwai Victor | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Kāko‘o HB2682

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/22/2024 8:27:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Dr. William H. Wilson | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita and Vice Chair Kitagawa of the House Finance Committee.

My name is Dr. William H. Wilson. I am a long time faculty member of the Hawaiian program here in Hilo, being the first person tenured in this area at UH Hilo. Over the years I have seen the program grow here from a very modest set of courses to the present status of having a full college with a B.A. through to the Ph.D., teacher certification, a laboratory school, a high functioning curriculum development program, an on-line resource center and a close working relationship with the 'Imiloa Center a combined museum and community outreach and resource center operated in conjunction with our college. We have expanded to serve other indigenous communities, especially those of the US this past fall being awarded by the US Department of Education with leadership of the first National Native American Language Resource Center.

All of our efforts have been built upon strong leadership from the state legislature that has passed legislation to make the above progress possible through designating our work as an area of special state concern. The status granted us by the legislature has provided us a means to bring in outside funding to Hawai'i.

HB 2682 further strengthens our ability to bring in external funding to Hawai'i and use that funding to support the areas of statewide concern for which the legislature has mandated the establishment of the various Hawaiian programs of our College and 'Imiloa. It will also allow us to work more efficiently and therefore bring in more funding from tribes, states and foundations that seek to work with us under our leadership in the revitalization and strengthening of Indigenous languages and cultures.

Hb2682 seeks no funds from the legislature, but instead seeks legislative support to bring in funds for Hawai'i, serving the economic interests of the state as a whole.

I strongly urge passage of this HB 2682, or inclusion of its purposes in other legislation, as has been the practice of the legislature in supporting our work here in Hilo in the past.

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/22/2024 9:03:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

Kāko‘o au i nei pila e ho‘onoa ana i ke ala ‘ohi kālā e ho‘oholomua ai i kā mākou mau papahana ho‘ōla ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i!

Na Kaipolani Kim

HB-2682

Submitted on: 2/22/2024 9:05:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2024 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support bill HB2682, please support it as well!

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Lā Ho‘olohe: Po‘alima, 23 Pepeluali 2024

Hola: 10:00am

Wahi: Conference Room 308

‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike na:

Kyla Manzano

PO Box 492528

Kea‘au HI 96749

*HB 2682 Relating to the Hawaiian Language College Revolving Fund and the
Hawaiian Early Learning Trust Fund*

STRONGLY SUPPORTS

Aloha pumehana kākou,

My name is Kyla Keakealani Manzano and I am writing in support of HB 2683.

As ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center has an important relationship with the Hawaiian Language College, Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani, it is beneficial that it be included in this bill, and HB 2682 be passed.

Mahalo nui,

Kyla Manzano

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