



EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING
HONOLULU

GG WEISENFELD
DIRECTOR

Testimony in **Support** of
H.B. 1700, Relating to the State Budget
Program ID GOV100
By GG Weisenfeld, Director

House Committee on Finance
March 5, 2014
2:00 p.m., Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon. I am GG Weisenfeld, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL supports the funding requests included in the Executive Supplemental Budget for early learning.

The Governor's supplemental budget request for Program ID GOV100 includes funds for the school year beginning August 2014 for:

- Family-child interaction learning programs (\$1 million for 400 children*);
- The DOE-EOEL Prekindergarten Program (\$4,470,208 for 640 children*);
- The operations of EOEL (\$218,000 for 3 positions – a policy analyst, program manager, and operations fiscal manager; and meeting costs).

*Free- and reduced-price meal eligible – a family of four could qualify if its income is at or below \$50,117.

Our objective is to increase the number of four-year-olds who will have the opportunity for a prekindergarten experience. These requests are to expand the mixed-delivery system so that in the coming school year, we can reach more four-year-olds beyond the 1,200 that can be reached by the Preschool Open Doors program funded last year.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.