**Special Education Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*

Ms. Dale Matsuura, *Vice Chair* Dr. Patricia Sheehey, *Vice Chair*

Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Vice Chair*

Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta

Ms. Virginia Beringer

Ms. Deborah Cheeseman

Ms. Annette Cooper

Mr. Motu Finau

Mr. Sage Goto

Ms. Lindsay Heller

Dr. Kurt Humphrey

Ms. Tina King

Ms. Bernadette Lane

Ms. Kaili Murbach

Ms. Stacey Oshio

Ms. Carrie Pisciotto

Ms. Kau’i Rezentes

Ms. Rosie Rowe

Mr. James Street

Mr. Francis Taele

Mr. Steven Vannatta

Dr. Amy Wiech

Ms. Jasmine Williams

Ms. Susan Wood

Mr. Drew Saranillio, *liaison*

*to the Superintendent*

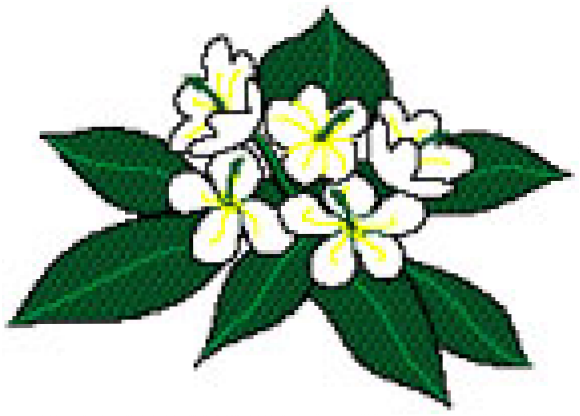
Dr. Bob Campbell, *liaison to*

*the military community*

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff

Susan Rocco, Staff

**S E A C**

**Special Education Advisory Council**

**1010 Richards Street, Room 118**

**Honolulu, HI 96813**

**Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129**

[**email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov**](mailto:spin@doh.hawaii.gov)

February 25, 2019

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Committee on Finance

Hawaii State Capitol

Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: HB 1524, HD 1 – RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BUDGET

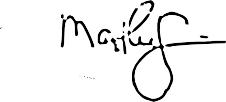
Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), Hawaii’s State Advisory Panel under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), **supports** HB 1524, HD 1 which provides additional funds and positions and makes other adjustments to the fiscal biennium 2019-21 base budget of the Department of Education.

SEAC received a briefing on the budget earlier this month from Assistant Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer Amy Kunz. We endorse the Department’s alignment of the budget with strategic priorities and its efficient reprogramming of existing funds to that aim. Specifically, we support the funding of critically needed applied behavioral analysis (ABA) personnel and skilled nursing services through repurposing existing EDN 150 monies.

Furthermore, we appreciate the noticeable efforts to make the Department’s budget process more transparent to families, legislators and other key stakeholders. We are hopeful that your committee will fully support the Department’s biennium request to provide a safe, quality, and appropriate learning environment for all of Hawaii’s public school students.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important budget legislation. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Ivalee Sinclair

Legislative Committee Chair

Martha Guinan Chair

*Mandated by the* ***Individuals with Disabilities Education Act***