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), respectfully asks for your favorable consideration of restoring the following items that were removed from the Executive Request in the Governor’s Message dated February 7, 2017:

1) **EDN 200 - Add Funds for Seclusion and Restraints Training and Certification (FY 18: $385,000, FY 19: $385,000)**

SEQ # 100-001, Budget Worksheet Page 292

This appropriation is vital to the implementation of Act 206. The law provides for all school staff to receive training in the proper use of physical restraints as well as non-violent crisis intervention, and to develop and maintain a database to document all incidents involving the use of restraints. In addition to restoring $300,000 cut from the Executive Request, SEAC asks that you provide an additional $85,000 to fund one full-time equivalent position to oversee the provision of training and data collection, and to complete the reporting requirements outlined ACT 206.

2) **EDN 700 - 20 Permanent Positions and Funds for Pre-K Programs (FY 19: $1,040,593)**

SEQ # 101-001, Budget Worksheet Page 321

These funds will add 20 permanent positions to expand the Pre-Kindergarten Program. SEAC believes that increasing the availability of quality early learning programs will create more opportunities for young children with disabilities to have their school readiness needs met in inclusive settings.

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

Respectfully,

Martha Guinan
Chair

Ivalee Sinclair
Legislative Committee Chair

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Mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act