RE: HB 918, HD 1 - Relating to Early Intervention

Dear Chair Baker 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 918, HD 1 that provides funding for a web-based data system in the Early Intervention Section of the Department of Health.

Early intervention services are critical to preventing and ameliorating the negative effects of disabling conditions on a child’s later educational success and functional capabilities. Having an efficient data system to coordinate and track services for toddlers and preschoolers who have developmental delays will help ensure timely and appropriate interventions for these vulnerable keiki.

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