



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council

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March 21, 2017

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

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Grant Chun, Chair
Finance and Infrastructure Committee
Hawaii State Board of Education
P. O. Box 2360
Honolulu, HI 96804

RE: IV. B. Update on the Department of Education's 2017-2019 Fiscal
Biennium budget request: House Committee on Finance decisions

Dear Chair Chun and Members of the Committee,

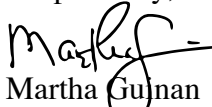
The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) supports the Board's efforts to provide adequate funding for the delivery of public educational services. To that end, members of SEAC's Legislative Committee have met with the House and Senate chairs of the Education Committees and staff from the Senate Ways and Means Committee to advocate for a restoration of items cut from the Board-approved budget that have a significant impact on students with disabilities.

The House of Representatives has included a number of these priority budget items in their draft HB 100 General Fund Request including:

- 60 positions for special education preschool teachers and educational assistants (EDN 150)
- \$2,800,000 for the Hawaii Keiki: Healthy and Ready to Learn School-Based Health Services (EDN 100)
- \$466,909 for implementation of seclusion and restraints training and data collection (EDN 200), and
- 2 SBBH Education Specialists for Maui and the Big Island (EDN 200).

SEAC will continue to testify in support of their inclusion in the Senate's draft budget and through the budget conciliation process.

Respectfully,


Martha Guinan
SEAC Chair


Ivalee Sinclair
Legislative Committee Chair