



**S E A C**  
**Special Education Advisory Council**

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January 17, 2019

**Special Education  
Advisory Council**

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Kenneth Uemura, 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 Briefing to the  
Hawaii State Legislature on the Department's Budget Request for  
Fiscal Biennium Years 2019-2021

Dear Chair Uemura and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) welcomes this opportunity to support the Department's biennium budget request, particularly in the areas of 1) additional internal positions for Licensed Behavior Analysts and Registered Behavior Technicians to address the needs of students who require ABA services to benefit from their education, 2) adequate funding for skilled nursing services, and 3) additional educational specialist positions for the Office of Student Support Services.

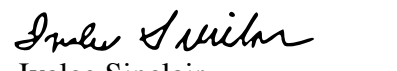
SEAC understands that the above EDN 150 priorities will be funded by reprogramming existing funds resulting from salary differentials or salary savings from not being able to fill existing positions. Our one concern is that should the Department be able to fill vacant special education positions with qualified personnel in the upcoming school year, it find another source of funding for the above-mentioned priorities.

In closing, we would like to add that we listened in to the Department's presentation to the Senate Ways and Means and Education Committees. We commend the Superintendent and her leadership team for a comprehensive presentation and for the transparency and patience with which they answered a myriad of questions from various legislators.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input. Should you have questions, we will be happy to provide answers or clarification.

Respectfully,

  
Martha Guinan  
SEAC Chair

  
Ivalee Sinclair  
Legislative Committee Chair

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