

## AKL Responses to Questions from the Legislature, February 2022

1. Is 'Aha Kauleo a non-profit?
  - 'Aha Kauleo is not a State agency.
  - 'Aha Kauleo is an official advisory board to the Office of Hawaiian Education therefore cannot be a non-profit or 501c3.
  - 'Aha Kauleo advised the Board of Education between the years of 1989-1990 and 2000.
  - When the Office of Hawaiian Education was established in the Department of Education in 2000, the Board of Education took advice from this office and not the 'Aha Kauleo.
  - In 2011, the 'Aha Kauleo was reorganized to address a number of serious Kaiapuni issues including federal testing. Since then, the 'Aha Kauleo has officially advised the Office of Hawaiian Education on Kaiapuni issues.
2. What would improve if this Bill passes?
  - Decisions made by informed experts in Hawaiian language, studies and second language learning and not by default to English and English learning..
3. Would this spark interest from content areas like math or English to want representation on the BOE?
  - Hawaiian immersion is not a content area, it is one of two language medium pathways in the Department of Education: Hawaiian and English. Disciplines such as SPED, Math, History and all other content areas exist within each of those language medium pathways.
4. What about 'Aha Kauleo representatives and other organizations and who may want to represent immersion?
  - Members of the 'Aha Kauleo should not be chosen to fill that spot because it is a conflict of interest. 'Aha Kauleo is an advisory board to the Office of Hawaiian Education (within the DOE).
  - 'Aha Kauleo represents 27 Hawaiian language immersion schools, 21 under the DOE and 6 charters, representing all stakeholders of all Hawaiian immersion public education schools. Maui has the most seats from any island because they have the most Hawaiian immersion schools and there is also a representative from the Hawaiian Studies department of UH Maui College. Community members and stakeholders also include Kamehameha Schools, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, University of Hawai'i (Maui, Hilo, & Mānoa), Brigham Young University. All those interested in that spot are welcome to come to 'Aha Kauleo for a recommendation.

1978	State Constitutional Convention, Hawaiian Official Language
1985	First Pūnana Leo established in
1986	<a href="#">HRS 298-2</a> amended to include Hawaiian as a medium of instruction in public schools.
1987	The first Hawaiian language immersion schools were established at Keaukaha Elementary on Hawai'i and Waiau Elementary on O'ahu.
1989-1990	'Aha Kauleo is established to represent Hawaiian language immersion schools and parents to advise the Board of Education on Hawaiian language immersion.
2000	The Office of Hawaiian Education is established within the Department of Education. The Board of Education begins to take advice from this office.
2010	The Office of Hawaiian Education, in partnership with school and community partners develops the <a href="#">Foundational and Administrative Framework for Kaiapuni Education</a> .
2011	'Aha Kauleo is reorganized to represent Hawaiian language immersion schools to advise the Hawaiian language immersion office in the Department of Education.
	OHE
	Testing information
	Differential
	KAP