Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

November 19, 2018

Lynn Johnson Assistant Secretary Administration for Children and Families U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 330 C Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20201

RE: Hawaii Department of Human Services Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five (PDG B-5) Application (CFDA 93.434)

Dear Ms. Johnson,

We write in support of the Hawaii Department of Human Services PDG B-5 application in the amount of \$950,000.

The state of Hawaii has been working toward a comprehensive mixed delivery system (MDS) to provide a spectrum of quality programs and services statewide for children from birth to age five. The PDG B-5 grant will supplement Hawaii's current early childhood education system, enabling the state to build on established partnerships and public pre-kindergarten programs to develop governance, equitable access to early childhood programs and services, family engagement, and a highly qualified workforce.

This grant will allow Hawaii to conduct a statewide needs assessment, develop a strategic plan, engage families, design training for providers, and convene a State Early Childhood Summit to promote the envisioned MDS.

By engaging family members, providers, and state agency leadership, this project will ensure a successful MDS in Hawaii for all children, birth through five statewide, especially those identified as vulnerable per the U.S. Department of Education's Every Student Succeeds Act.

Accordingly, we request your full and fair consideration of Hawaii's PDG B-5 grant application.

Sincerely,

MAZIE K. HIRONO Member of Congress

Mazin K Dirano

BRIAN SCHATZ United States Senator

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TULSI GABBARD

United States Senator

COLLEEN HANABUSA Member of Congress