

From: laverne.maele@ymail.com [mailto:laverne.maele@ymail.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2013 1:11 AM  
Subject: Council Meeting Testimony (Hiilani Maele)

Due to difficulties in sending through a PC, I have attached my daughter's testimony under my email. Please admit this letter in consideration of her wanting to speak in support for Bill 11.

Hiilani's letter:

June 4, 2013

Dear Honolulu City Council Members,

I am writing on the behalf of the Dyslexia Tutoring Center of Hawaii in support of Bill 11 (2013). As a former student at DTCH, I can say it was very helpful for me. Before my parents found DTCH, I was struggling with reading, writing, and spelling in English and as a Hawaiian Immersion student. I had attended DTCH from 4th grade to 8th grade. Through the 4 years of being tutored at DTCH they have taught and showed me so many useful skills for reading, writing, and spelling. For reading and spelling they have showed me the different ways that the sound of some consonants and the vowels make and to use each one in the proper way. From writing they have showed me the correct ways to use certain word like "their, there, know, now" and many other words. Although I read at a low grade level, I know that I will start to read at a higher grade level using what I have learned from DTCH. Everything that they have taught me is going to help me through the rest of my high school years and the rest of my life. I am very thankful for what they have taught me through the 4 years.

Although I had chosen to take a break from tutoring, when I felt I needed more help, I was very disappointed that I couldn't return because of the lack of funding.

I believe that not only has DTCH helped me with my reading and writing, the staff has helped me grow as a person. They have helped me open up and be more active on speaking to people. However, not only have they became my tutors but they have also became my friends. When I first started being tutored at DTCH it was a little uncomfortable, but as sessions went by I grew friendships with my tutors and was able to talk to them more about what is easy and what I need help on.

From my experience at DTCH I can say that it is very helpful. I believe that this tutoring program can help more children and adults with dyslexia or who just been struggling to learn how to read, write, or spell in English. I ask that you pass Bill 11, so that DTCH can help more people like me. No one understands the struggles I that went through better than the staff at DTCH.

Sincerely,  
Hi'ilani Ma'ele

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