SB 2052 SD1 – RELATING TO LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on SB 2052 SD1 which adds early childhood education students to the Hawai‘i educator loan program to allow the education loans of those individuals to be forgiven after an appropriate number of years teaching in early childhood education as determined by the University of Hawai‘i.

The College of Education applauds all efforts in the continued financial support for early childhood educators. In partnership with provide financial institutions whose operations are principally conducted in Hawai‘i to provide financial support to students and teachers who complete a state—approved teacher education program and who agree to teach as a full—time teacher for a period of time to be determined by the university prior to the award of a loan.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to provide written comments on SB 2052 SD1.