

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/04/2015  
**Time:** 02:00 PM  
**Location:** 309  
**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 0095 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Replaces the running start program and jump start program with dual credit program; amends definition of "eligible student" to include all high school students; replaces standardized test to determine college readiness with an assessment approved by the college. Appropriates moneys.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports H.B. 95, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

The Department recognizes the critical importance of education as an investment in the future of our students and our state's economy. A well-educated and highly skilled workforce helps maintain Hawaii's economic competitiveness, supports higher tax revenues due to higher incomes, places fewer demands on social services, and improves civic engagement. Research has shown that students who earn college credit while in high schools are more likely to graduate, enroll in college, and earn a college degree.

Unfortunately, too many families cannot afford to provide this opportunity to their students. There is no legislative funding currently appropriated for dual credit programs, leaving students and their families to cover the cost for participating in programs such as Running Start. Given the demonstrated benefits of dual credit programs to students and the state as a whole, it is imperative that the state provide funding to allow as many students as possible access to these opportunities.

David Y. Ige  
GOVERNOR

Kathryn S. Matayoshi  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LEEWARD DISTRICT OFFICE SUPERINTENDENT  
601 KAMOKILA BOULEVARD, ROOM 588  
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

**A Bill for An Act – Dual Credit Programs  
For 2015 State of Hawaii Legislative Session  
Testimony provided to the House Committees on Education  
And Higher Education  
February 4, 2015 at 2 pm**

**HB 95 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**

Chair Takumi, Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

This is written in SUPPORT of HB 95

As the former principal of Roosevelt High School, Smaller Learning Communities Grant Project Director, chair of the Jump Start Early College Program, member of the UH-DOE task force on Early College Options and the current Complex Area Superintendent of the Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Area, I am in strong support of HB 95. I am in concurrence with the testimony provided by Ms. Karen Lee of the Hawaii P-20 Partnerships in Education and have been able to witness the success of these Early College Dual Credit programs on students and their families.

We are at a very critical time in education where we must build dual credit programs that will support the transition of all students to postsecondary education. There have been a limited number of students who have successfully taken advantage of Running Start, Jump Start and College Courses on the High School campuses at the expense of their parents, GEAR UP grant scholarships, and federal grants to school consortiums or by school funds. Not all schools have been able to provide these opportunities to their students as much is dependent on the affordability either by parents or school allocated state funds.

HB 95 will support the building of a system of supports between the UH system and DOE to bridge our programs to postsecondary success for all of our students. It is important that through this legislation we:

- Broaden the current Running Start legislation to include other forms of dual credit options;
- Increase eligibility of students from 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders down to 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders;
- Allow for multiple measures of assessment to determine eligibility (not limited to COMPASS testing only but allows for grades, GPA or other assessments);
- Appropriate funds for the instruction, courses and administration of college credits.

I ask for your support on behalf of the Nanakuli-Waianae school principals, the students and their families as we continue to try to increase the number of our students who are prepared and ready to enter postsecondary institutions. We have started partnerships with our UH partners, Leeward Community College and UH West Oahu. We believe that it is due to these types of partnerships and early college program options that our students are able to build confidence in themselves, push ahead towards their dreams when they are ready and start the course to future success.

If you are in need of any further information, you may contact me at our office: Phone (808) 692-8000 or email me at [ann\\_mahi@notes.k12.hi.us](mailto:ann_mahi@notes.k12.hi.us)

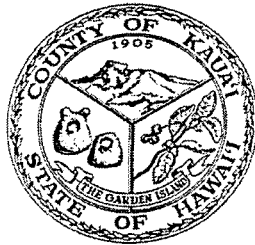
Sincerely,



Ann A. Mahi  
Complex Area Superintendent  
Nanakuli-Waianae Complex Area  
State of Hawaii, Department of Education  
601 Kamokila Blvd. Room 588  
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
Ross Kagawa, Vice Chair  
Mason K. Chock  
Gary L. Hooser  
Arryl Kaneshiro  
KipuKai Kualii  
JoAnn A. Yukimura



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Ricky Watanabe, County Clerk  
Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone (808) 241-4188  
Fax (808) 241-6349  
Email [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov)

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

February 3, 2015

**TESTIMONY OF MASON K. CHOCK**  
**COUNCILMEMBER, KAUA'I COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ON**  
**HB 95, RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS**  
Committee on Education  
Committee on Higher Education  
Wednesday, February 4, 2015  
2:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 309

Dear Chair Takumi, Chair Choy, and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 95 relating to education and dual credit programs. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a Councilmember of the Kauai County Council.

HB 95 provides a great opportunity for students to further their education. The increasing number of jobs requiring postsecondary education is inevitable, and to ensure students receive the best options in preparation for their professional careers is to broaden the current law which expands student participation in dual credit programs. This will give high school students a chance to get an early start on college and see that they can succeed in college, regardless of their income status.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly encourage the Committee to support this measure. Again, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,

MASON K. CHOCK  
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

AB:cy



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

---

Testimony presented before the  
House Committees on Education and Higher Education  
February 4, 2015 at 2 pm  
By Karen C. Lee, Ed.D.  
Associate Vice President and  
Executive Director, Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education

### HB 95 – RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

Chair Takumi, Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ohno, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

HB 95 expands the current running start legislation to include all dual credit programs, expands the definition of an eligible student to include all high school students, and replaces the standardized test to determine college readiness with assessments for college placement. It also appropriates moneys to these programs.

The University strongly supports this bill. Hawai'i has had a history of promoting dual credit opportunities, mainly through the Running Start program, which allows high school students to take college level courses for college and high school credit at a UH campus, for over 10 years. The outcomes of these students show that they have higher college-going rates, higher likelihood to enroll in college, higher likelihood to remain in college, and higher likelihood to graduate with a degree or certificate. The University, in partnership with the Hawai'i Department of Education, is expanding the dual credit program to include the early college high school program, which allows high school students to take college level courses at their high school campus and which targets students who would not traditionally go to college. Early indications from Hawai'i high schools show better college-going rates and success rates of these students than regular incoming college students. Some of these students, particularly at high schools such as Waipahu, Waiakea, and Kaimuki, are on track to graduate with a college associate's degree upon high school graduation. Nationally, a recent report from the American Institutes for Research shows early college students have higher rates of high school graduation, college enrollment and college completion.

Currently, high schools are able to run these dual credit programs in partnership with UH campuses through private foundation grants, federal grant dollars, and payment of tuition by families who can afford to pay. However, because the early college high school program is expanding rapidly and because it targets underrepresented, low-income, first-generation college students, the ability to sustain this popular program is in jeopardy. We ask that the state fund these programs to both the Hawai'i Department of Education and the University of Hawai'i.

In the 2014-15 school year, Hawai'i has over 1,400 students enrolled in dual credit courses. The \$1.84 million request to the Hawai'i DOE would fund 30 students at every DOE high school to earn 6 college credits in one year, because research shows that earning at least 6 credits aids college-going and success. It would also fund 2 full time positions – one to act as the fiscal and operations administrator of the funds and distribute the funds equitably to schools; the other to provide programmatic and technical support to the schools and colleges in setting up the programs, determining courses, and acting as liaison between K-12 and higher education. These two positions do not exist currently; the functions are performed by temporary personnel at Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education which is funded by private and federal grants.

The \$800,000 request to UH would award scholarships to approximately 1200 students to take Running Start courses (those taken at the college campus) and to be in the Jump Start program (program for 12<sup>th</sup> graders to spend their senior year at the college, taking a full year of a career and technical education program). Some of these students take more than 1 course each year. The funding request would also fund one position to coordinate the scholarship application process, distribute funds to students equitably, and coordinate the early college taskforce. The position currently exists as a temporary position at Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education, funded by private and federal funds.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



# KAUA'I COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## University of Hawai'i

Kurt Rutter, MSN, RN, CCRN, CNE  
Assistant Professor, Nursing  
Kaua'i Community College  
3-1901 Kaumuali'i Hwy.  
Lihue, HI 96746  
office: 808-245-8331  
krutte@hawaii.edu

Aloha,

February 2, 2015

I am submitting testimony **in favor of HB 95** in support of dual credit programs in the state of Hawaii. Dual credit programs have been in effect across the U.S. (Institute of Educational Sciences, 2011). Engaging students in continued education beyond high school is critical for increasing high school completion and advancement to associate and baccalaureate degrees (Radunzel, Noble, & Wheeler, 2014). Evidence from for the past 15 years of dual credit programs across the U.S. demonstrates that students at all levels of academic achievement benefit from dual credit enrollment intellectually and economically because of reduced college cost and earlier graduation from college and technical training (Baily & Karp, 2003). Students who transition to college demonstrate greater direction and commitment to career and life choices, and increase high school completion rates. Making dual credit programs available to all high school students provides an opportunity for vocational and liberal arts skills development so students are ready to pursue career goals and enter the workforce ready to compete in a global marketplace. Please consider voting in favor of HB 95 in support of the success of our students and the prosperity of the state of Hawaii as a center for trade, tourism, and research in the 21st century.

mahalo!

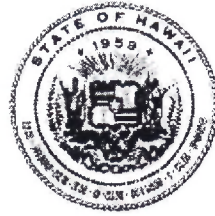
*Kurt Rutter*

### References

Bailey, T. & Karp, M. M. (2003) Promoting College Access and Success: A Review of Credit-Based Transition Programs. *Community College Research Center Teachers College/Columbia University*. Retrieved from the Dept. of Education Office of Career, Technical, and Adult education at <http://education.gov/about/offices/list/ovae/pi/cclo/crdbase.doc>

Institute of Educational Sciences (2013) Dual Credit and Exam-Based Courses in U.S. Public High Schools: 2010–11 *U.S. Dept. of Education NCES 2013–001*. Retrieved from <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2013/2013001.pdf>

Radunzel, J., Noble, J., & Wheeler, S. (2014), Dual-Credit/Dual-Enrollment Coursework and Long-Term College Success in Texas. *ACT Research and Policy, October 2014*. Retrieved from <http://www.act.org/research/policymakers/pdf/DualCreditTexasReport.pdf>



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
**WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL**  
94-1211 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY  
WAIPAHU, HI 96797

Testimony presented before the  
House Committees on Education and Higher Education  
February 4, 2015 at 2 pm  
By Mark Silliman  
Director, Waipahu High School Early College

HB 95 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

POSITION: Support

Dear Honorable Committee Chair Takumi, Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

In 2002, start-up funding for the Early College High School Initiative came from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Ford Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and a number of other major contributors. These start-up resources gave rise to one of the most important educational reform movements in recent history. Notwithstanding these generous grants, many of the 280 redesigned early college high schools throughout the nation have moved away from "soft" money and have now secured permanent and sustainable funding through their respective state legislatures.

On June 4, 2012, Waipahu High School launched the first early college high school program in the State of Hawaii with generous support from the McInerney Foundation. The program began by offering 30 students the opportunity to take a University of Hawaii, West Oahu course in Psychology at no cost to the students. As word spread amongst eager students, enrollments grew to 103 duplicate students in SY2012-13 to 424 duplicate students in SY2013-14, with a 99.8% pass rate.

The net result of this program has been far greater than the award of college credit to underrepresented, low-income, ELL and first-generation college students. The early college program has significantly improved career and college readiness. For instance, preliminary data show that students who graduate from Waipahu High School, and who transfer to Leeward Community College with early college credits, outperform Waipahu High School graduates without early college experience. The following are a few examples of these preliminary data:

- Retention Rate 90.2 versus 65% (25 percentage point better with respect to retention)
- Average Success Rate in Math 100 & English 90.5 versus 70.4 % (20.1 percentage point difference)
- Average GPA was 2.92 versus 2.05 (.87 on 4 point scale (42% higher) GPA

It is no coincidence that the early college movement is championed by Jobs for the Future – a non-profit organization that works to ensure that all underprepared young people and workers have the skills and credentials needed to succeed in the job market.

Beyond helping the University of Hawaii System and the Hawaii Department of Education reach their strategic goals of improving graduation rates of underrepresented students, the early college high school initiative has also been a major contributing strategy toward helping the State of Hawaii reach its 55 by 25 goal.

Jobs for the Future asserts, "Our best chance of preparing millions more Americans for the jobs of the future is by enabling higher education's most underrepresented populations (i.e., dropouts, minorities, low-income students) to succeed in college and other career training programs).

In improving readiness for college and careers, early college schools have become an essential part of Texas' strategy to develop a young workforce that can compete in a global, knowledge-based economy. The benefits to taxpayers of having more students progress successfully toward college completion makes the state's support for starting up these sustainable schools a prudent move" (JFF).

Skeptics might ask: "Is there a return on investment?" In 2006, Augenblick, Palaich and Associates developed a financial analysis model for calculating the return of investment (ROI) and found that states like California and New York might expect to yield \$1.33 to \$2.11 more for every dollar invested in early college high schools than in traditional high schools over the course of 15 years, and \$2.51 to \$3.95 more over the course of 25 years.

In summary, support of this bill will not only significantly improve the gross individual earnings, but would also significantly increase tax revenue for the federal and state governments.

- Hawaii could save as much as \$92.7 million in health care costs over the lifetimes of each class of dropouts (Alliance for Excellent Education, "Healthier and Wealthier," 2006).
- Hawaii's high schools graduated all of their students, the state could save as much as \$13.7 million a year (Alliance for Excellent Education, "Paying Double," 2006).
- Hawaii's economy could see a combination of crime-related savings and additional revenue of about \$18 million each year if the male high school graduation rate increased by just 5 percent (Alliance for Excellent Education, "Saving Futures, Saving Dollars," 2006).

The above analysis does not factor in other costs related to substance abuse, domestic violence, health-related medical expenses and incarceration – all of which have been shown statistically to relate to educational opportunity.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify





**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tanya Abalos	Hawaii State Teachers Association	Support	No

841 Bishop St., Suite 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Telephone: 808 926-1530  
Contact@HEECoalition.org

House Committee on Education  
Representative Roy Takumi, Chair  
Representative Takashi Ohno, Vice Chair

February 4, 2015

Dear Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Ohno, and Committee Members:

This testimony is in support of HB95, which replaces the running start program and jump start program with dual credit programs.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition understands that having a post-secondary degree gives choices to our youth, allowing them to prepare for jobs in our workforce as well as challenging them with higher-level thinking. However, we hear that many students do not think that college is an option because they do not have the confidence or the financial support. Jump Start and Running Start Programs have allowed high school students to experience college classes, start accumulating college credits and gain the confidence that they can succeed in a post-secondary program. We applaud these programs for giving students the opportunity and exposure while still in high school.

We support this bill, which expands the eligibility to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, giving more students the opportunity to participate in the dual credit programs. In addition, we support the financial appropriation, which will allow students to participate in dual credit programs tuition free. From a parent, family and student perspective, the cost of college tuition is extremely daunting. If a student can participate in their high school years to gain college credits tuition free, it eases the burden on families and the student, especially for those families and students who are contemplating pursuing a post-secondary education because of costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura  
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21  
After-School All-Stars Hawaii  
Alliance for Place Based Learning  
\*Castle Complex Community Council  
\*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS  
Center for Civic Education  
Coalition for Children with Special Needs  
\*Faith Action for Community Equity  
Fresh Leadership LLC  
Girl Scouts Hawaii  
\*Good Beginnings Alliance  
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation  
\*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars  
\*Hawai'i Charter School Network  
\*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition  
\*Hawaii State PTSA  
Hawai'i State Student Council  
Hawai'i State Teachers Association  
Hawai'i P-20  
Hawai'i 3Rs  
Head Start Collaboration Office  
It's All About Kids  
\*INPEACE  
Joint Venture Education Forum  
Junior Achievement of Hawaii  
\*Kaho'omiki  
Kamehameha Schools  
Kanu Hawai'i  
\*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council  
Keiki to Career Kaua'i  
Kupu A'e  
\*Leaders for the Next Generation  
Learning First  
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds  
Our Public School

\*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning  
\*Parents and Children Together  
\*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i  
Punahou School PUEO Program  
Teach for America  
The Learning Coalition  
US PACOM  
University of Hawai'i College of Education  
YMCA of Honolulu

*Voting Members (\*) Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

I STRONGLY SUPPORT Senate Bill (SB) 374 and House Bill (HB) 95 that calls to support dual enrollment programs for high school students.

My name is Sheldon Tawata, high school outreach coordinator for Kapi'olani Community College (KCC). One of my duties is to manage the College's Dual Enrollment Programs - Early Admit, Running Start, and Jump Start. At KCC we enroll on average 60 students each semester who come from public, private, charter and home schools.

National research has proven that high school students who successfully complete a dual enrolled program become a greater contributor to the State by completing college and entering the workforce.

I truly believe in dual enrollment opportunities but the current infrastructure mainly benefit those who can afford it, thus creating a divide based on socio-economic status. For the most part, students are responsible for tuition, fees, and books. Financial support through scholarships are available but limited. For instance, a student on the free or reduced lunch program are only awarded a Hawaii P20 Gear Up Scholarship for one course for at least one semester. There is no guarantee that they'll receive a second scholarship in the following semesters due to the high demand and limited resources. Some select high schools offer college courses on their campus but the financial support varies depending on the high school. Then there are families that are on the borderline financially and falls between low-income and middle class, which creates a different kind of financial challenge making it difficult to invest in such a program.

With that said, support from the State of Hawai'i will equal the playing field by providing these opportunities to all students in the public school system. Currently, students who are enrolled in 6 or more credits per semester come from families who can afford the tuition. Students taking 6 credits or less generally rely on the Hawai'i P20 Gear Up Scholarships. As you can see, it creates access based on income and that shouldn't be the case.

I've asked my current dual enrolled students how this has made an impact on them educationally and personally. Over 40 of my students provided insight to their journey, below are just a handful with a powerful message.

Student 1:

If I did not become a part of the Jump start program in 2011 I would have dropped out of high school. I felt that completing high school just to go to a community college was a waste of my time. Whether I would have made it to KCC's admission office if I did follow that path is another mystery. The jump start program showed me all the amazing things that college has to offer. It also makes tuition and books obtainable when it could deter me otherwise. Spending my senior year in school helped me to grow so much being surrounded by folks who also has college on their mind. Currently I am a junior at UH Manoa. I plan on going to graduate school and hopefully obtaining my PhD. College made my dreams possible. The Jump Start program made college possible.

I matured a lot through the experience. At Kaimuki I was surrounded by people who did not want to go to college (mainly because they couldn't afford it), therefore success in school wasn't on their mind. My friends wouldn't do their homework or come to school. Being in that environment compared being in a college environment had a huge impact on my maturity and mind set. It made things that I didn't think possible, very possible.

I wouldn't be as successful as I am today without the Jump Start program. The environment, tuition assistance, amazing counsellors, etc, made for an amazing college experience with an easy transition from high school to college. Taking away this program is closing a door for many students who wouldn't be able to go to college otherwise.

Student 2:

This opportunity has impacted my education in numerous ways. I go to an online high school, so all of my class are online, including math. I did not enjoy learning math online, so I jumped at the opportunity to be able to take college level math classes in an actual classroom. Running start and gave me the opportunity to have a teacher explain to me how the different equations work, how new concepts built upon the old ones, and helped me to develop a better understanding of the material. Another impact it is having is the accounting class that I am currently taking. My high school does not offer an accounting class, so if I was not a part of running start, I would have to wait until the next school year, when I am in college, to take this class. Since I would like to be a business professional, I now have some experience prior to going to college, and I am able to get a "feel" of what the business world is like. Lastly, running start has allowed me to earn both college and high school credits. In May, I will be graduating high school with 17 college credits, so when I go to college, I will almost have sophomore status. This is something that I am extremely proud of.

I have gained so much from this opportunity, but the most important thing that it has given me is confidence. As a home school student, I always get asked, "why are you home schooled." Not all the time, but most of the time this implies, "what is wrong with you?" Do you have a learning disability, or are you socially awkward? Although I know that I am neither, being home schooled always made me feel like I was little less than my friends. Having this opportunity has boosted my confidence because it proves to myself and others that I am a smart and independent student. Not only am I able to complete college level work, but I am able to excel as well. I was at the top of my class and finished with A's. This proved to me that although I may not go to Punahou or any other private school, I am just as smart as those who do.

I would like the politicians to hear that the programs help students to earn college credit and experience are vital to create successful future leaders. They should not be put on the "back burner". These students who are taking these courses are going to become the leaders of tomorrow, and we should do all that we can to support them. We may not see the return on the monetary investment tomorrow or even 5 years from now, but one day, we will see it in the people who are community leaders, people who become senators, and people who care for others. By taking these courses, students not only get ahead in college work, but they gain essential skills for life, such as time management, how to work independently, taking initiative, and how to be self motivated. These skills will help kids today become leaders tomorrow, so I urge the politicians to take a closer look at the impact that these programs have on the kids that participate in them.

Student 3:

It had allowed me to take advantages of my interest. High school can sometimes get boring with the limited classes available so these challenges are always great.

I've got to meet countless professors and this had paved way for a research internships.

This is critical for our education. We need bright leaders and by allowing us to take college classes from an early age, it allows is to attain our potential.

Student 4:

This opportunity has impacted my educational journey by opening up a whole new world for me. I was always scared about going to college, but having this course available to me has made me feel more at ease about going to college.

This opportunity has impacted me personally by letting me take a college course, despite of my financial situation. It's enabling me to get some college courses out of the way, without having to pay anything. That's a huge impact on my family and I.

Student 5:

This opportunity to be able to take college classes in high school is a big benefit to me! As a Freshman, having the ability to do this will help me in my future history classes and in college as I gain knowledge from this class. It's an opportunity that will help me in my high school and college classes. This is my first time taking a college class and I can already see that it will help me a lot in the future.

This opportunity to take college classes are helping me not only with my education, but also personally. College is really expensive and I'm glad my high school has this program. Being able to earn college credits for free, is an opportunity I can't decline. Financially, I can't afford to go to college on my own without financial aid or scholarships. But this program at Kaimuki allows me to take college classes and because of that, that's one less financial cost I won't have to worry about when I'm in college. The only difference with taking college class in high school is the environment, it's held at our high school rather than a college. Taking a college class also gives me a better understanding of how much work you'd have to do in actual college. This gives a better ideal picture and prepares us for how it'll be in college. Other students should have the opportunity to take college classes and have the total experience. I feel blessed to be one of the people chosen have the opportunity to take this course!

Student 6:

Kaimuki to college impacted my education by helping me do better in school. I thought that if I could take a college class, I would be able to do well in high school courses as well. I also have more high school credits because I earned them doing the college courses. I learned how to look at things in different perspectives. I gained more knowledge about things that I didn't know before and about things that I have previously learned.

This opportunity boosted my self-confidence. I felt that I had/have more potential that what I used to have. I really enjoy taking these classes and it's really fun to meet new people and get a gist of the college experience. I was really happy to know that I could complete high school courses with this opportunity. This also affects my future and I could save time and money on college.

I think that Kaimuki to College is an amazing opportunity that can influence students to do better in school. It can also boost their confidence in their academics and it can boost their potential. K2C also looks good on transcripts and it can help students to have a better chance in colleges. They also have an opportunity to make new friends and gain college experience. K2C can also be good for their families in their future like they can have a better influence on their kid and do better in life.

Student 7 (this student will complete at least 15 credits worth of course before graduation):

PACS 108 is by far the most difficult class I had ever taken. This class was a nightmare to begin with. This college class showed me that my time management skills and writing skills need improvement. Before PACS 108 I had a bad habit, I would rarely ever study for tests because I knew the content with ease. This bad habit didn't allow me to develop my studying skills. Therefore studying in PACS was time consuming and hard. This showed when I got a B in that class. Kaimuki to College allowed me to realize how important goals are. The transition from high school classes to college classes was difficult, but thanks to the Kaimuki To College Program I have improved on my time

management, writing, and studying skills. This opportunity allowed me to discover my weaknesses, and improve them. I am now ready to be successful in college thanks to this program.

My greatest challenge in my life is to graduate from a 4-year college. This would be the greatest challenge for me because none of my parents have graduated from a 4-year college. My mom has an associate's degree and my dad only has a diploma. To be the first in the family would be an accomplishment. Through the Running Start program, I was able to earn 15 college credits. Taking college courses allowed me to realize that I can meet and exceed college standards. This really motivates me and my peers to excel further beyond high school.

Student 8:

Overall, as a student of Kaimuki High, I have seen many of my avid brothers and sisters improve on their core classes such as earning better grades. K2C had a major impact on our avid students because I have seen my classmates that went to KCC and earn or take a college course or credit. Now, they've come back to Kaimuki with college credits already earned ... From my opinion I really believe that K2C will help students to define their careers in life and to accomplish college within 3 years after high school. K2C will absolutely change the school's environment into a better reputation.

Student 9:

This opportunity impacted my educational journey by allowing me to prepare and get ahead by taking college level courses. It has also helped motivate me to strive for my major even more so than before. At first I was thinking about how hard college was going to be and was hesitant. I was being very ignorant about college before I had taken the opportunity to take college courses. Now after that I had taken and experienced college courses I now feel reassured about my educational journey and will be stampeding forth for my degree and graduate with a bachelors for a successful life.

This opportunity had impacted me personally by improving my time management skills, become more independent, and to take opportunities before it's too late. In high school, you didn't really have to manage your time. Mainly due to the fact that high school has a set schedule of when it starts, class times, and when it ends. On the other hand, in college you have the freedom to choose your own time and it's all up to you to manage it correctly. Secondly, it allowed me to become more independent because I'm no longer relying on my teachers for help although I do ask occasionally, they just have too many students and are extremely busy. I found that going to the library was very useful and did my independent studying for my classes in the library everyday. The library was full of resources that I could use and it had become my best friend. Not only did I do independent studying, the library had a study group room in which we can study together as well. Finally, I had been impacted personally by learning to take opportunities as soon as possible. For example when the semester starts for college class availability runs out quick and you gotta take the opportunity by signing on early as soon as possible to get the class that you want. In the end, this opportunity of being able to experience college life had greatly impacted me personally in many ways.

I would like to say that this opportunity that we get will not only strive other students to strive for college but to also strive them to complete college. Getting an early college credit could also reduce their time needed to graduate quite significantly. For those with low income might not be able to afford as many classes, therefore being able to take these college courses ahead of time for free would be like a blessing to them. More people will be able to attend and graduate from college. More graduations with degrees would allow them to get better jobs and a higher income than just graduating with a high school diploma. Therefore, leading to a successful life and career.

Student 10:

I'm experiencing what college is like before becoming a full time student this Fall, and I'm enjoying it a lot. I believe I will be more prepared for college when I enroll for Fall semester because I'll know what to expect. And the reason why is when Fall comes, I will have experienced what college is like ahead of time while I was still in highschool instead of being a student who just graduated from highschool going straight into college and not knowing what to do or expect. Being more prepared especially applies to homeschooled highschool students. I've heard from my piano teacher who is a professor at UH that a lot of homeschooled highschool students who go straight into college right after graduating find it a "culture shock" because they're overwhelmed with homework, classes, and not knowing what to expect whereas homeschooled highschool students who take a class or two through early admit while they're still in highschool tend to be more prepared for college when they enroll full time because they already know what it's like to get assignments done, work in a group with fellow classmates, and it's less stressful. It's much easier because they already know what it's like.

I'm a very shy, introverted person. It's just the type of personality I have. I used to hate working in groups and I used to only like working alone because I'm an introvert. After enrolling in Japanese 101 as an early admit student however, my views on working only alone changed. I've found that working in groups and working with classmates can be very beneficial because we can all help one another and it makes studying more fun. I still like working by myself in class though, but working in groups is fine too. Either way works for me.

Student 11:

This opportunity allows me to attend college courses as high school student and makes it more "real." By real, I mean that it is different from the talk about the college, students like me actually get to sit in a classroom and learn in a college environment. Because I started college early, I am motivated to continue after high school until I obtain the degree that I am satisfied with. Not only would I get the experience of sitting in a college classroom, I also consume incredible knowledge.

This opportunity is indeed a personal experience for me because my mother provided the tuition for my math class. It was expensive and put a burden on my shoulders. Through hard work and help from others, I was able to achieve my goal and passed the class with an A. For the first time, I felt the joy of an accomplishment and it was precious. From then, I continued to take classes such as Religion and Speech. I finished Religion with an A and in the process of completing Speech. I am thankful for the opportunity and glad to see it making a change in students, for the better.



Testimony for House Committees on Education and Higher Education,  
February 4, 2015 at 2 pm  
By Drake Zintgraff, M.Ed.  
Student Services Specialist, Kapiolani Community College

## HB 95 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

Chair Takumi, Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

I am writing this in support of HB 95 relating to dual credit programs. My backing of this proposed bill stems from both my professional and academic experience related to the impacts of dual credit programs.

In my current position at Kapiolani Community College I assist with the coordination and management of the dual credit programs offered by the College. In addition I advise and help prepare students for their transition after high school into post-secondary education. My academic background in this subject stems from my time at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in the Educational Administration program where I focused my research on dual credit programs in Hawaii and across the country.

In my own personal experience I can testify to the statement that education can be a gateway to a plethora of opportunities. However, with research from The Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce that predicts that by 2020 70% of jobs in Hawaii will require some form of college education, and with the latest U.S. Census data showing that only 44.3% of hawaii adults hold a two-or-four-year college degree, new efforts must be made to increase the percentage of working age residents with a college credential.

The research on dual credit programs shows that they could be a method to address this need for more educated citizens. Students who earn 6-12 college credits upon graduation from high school are more likely to attend, persist, and graduate from college than their peers. With that said, dual credit programs do not just give students college credits, they better help prepare students for their transition to a full-time college workload, build their social capital, and gain a better understanding of what college has to offer so that they may maximize their time.

One of the main causes why students don't succeed upon entering college is that they place into developmental courses (math or English courses below the college level) at high rates. Some UH Community College campuses having students placing into developmental coursework at rates as high as 70% in some subjects. These courses consume additional resources, cost students and institutions time and money, have low completion rates, and as research indicates, impacts students self confidence level, and further deters students from continuing their education and leaving college.

Dual credit programs can help address this issue of academic preparedness by offering an opportunity for college faculty and outreach members to meet with students at an earlier age and draw more real-world connections to college and their aspirations, in addition to the

research from a white paper published by Hawaii P-20 that shows students who have taken dual credit courses are more prepared than their peers upon entering college after high school.

With that all said, the area that I feel dual credit programs have the potential to make the biggest impact on the state of Hawaii, is financially. Making college a more manageable financial decision for students can help address the research that shows students from low-income backgrounds have higher levels of negative perceptions of student loans and educational financial barriers, and in-turn, less likely to attend college. Helping students get a head start academically and financially can help increase college access for low-income students, but also for students of many backgrounds.

The cost of living in Hawaii affects everyone, but can be especially difficult for recent college graduates as they search for well-paying jobs, housing options, and other common life milestones. Research indicates individuals with high debt in their 20's have been shown to have more negative perceptions about the obtainability of things like home ownership, retirement, and marriage. Many highly skilled graduates choose to either move to the mainland or don't come back from the mainland after college because of these perceptions coupled with our high cost of living. Dual credit courses can help students save on educational costs so that they can in-turn be more likely to be active participants in our states hopefully growing economy. Furthermore, dual credit programs also help gives prospective college students the belief that they can both succeed and afford to go to college.

I support HB 95, because I believe that supporting innovative ideas like what this bill contains, is supporting the potential infrastructure that could produce a boom in college graduates, our State's economy, and the ability to enhance the quality of our public education to in-turn benefit the good of all of Hawaii.

Thank you for your time and opportunity to testify,

Drake Zintgraff

February 3, 2015

To the Honorable Members of the House Education and Higher Education Committees:

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB 95.

Dual credit programs give high school students a chance to get an early start on college, free of charge, allowing all types of students the opportunity to see that they can succeed in college, regardless of their income status. Students benefit from exposure to the skills needed to be successful in college, exposure to college for first-generation students, shortening the time to degree, reducing the cost of degree, and providing additional course offerings that may be unavailable in normal high school curricula. Currently, three different forms of dual credit programs in Hawai'i provide opportunities for students to earn the college credits: Early College (courses offered on their high school campus), Running Start (courses offered at a UH campus), and Jump Start (full-time study of career/technical education path at a UHCC).

Research shows that students who earn 6-12 college credits upon graduation from high school are more likely to go to college, stay in college, and graduate from college. Two- or four-year college gives our students the best chance at success in today's economy.

Dual enrollment is one important strategy to help the state achieve the goal of having 55% of working age adults hold a two- or four-year postsecondary degree by the year 2025. Benefits from dual enrollment to the state can include an increasingly well-educated and highly skilled workforce to maintain economic competitiveness, higher incomes resulting in higher tax revenues, fewer demands on social services, improved health, and increased civic engagement.

Between school years 2002-03 and 2011-12, 5,255 dual credit participants enrolled in 8,554 courses in the University of Hawai'i System – registering for a total of 25,074 credits. In addition, the number of dual credit participants has increased by 91.2%, from 434 students in 2002-03 to 830 students in 2011-12. The number of UH courses taken by dual credit participants has also grown from 543 in 2002-03 to 1,230 in 2011-12.

In Hawaii, dual credit participants had higher college-going rates, were more likely to enroll in college in the fall term immediately following high school graduation, were more likely to enroll at a 4-year institution, had higher 1-year retention rates in college, were more likely to have earned a degree or certificate, and more likely to have earned a bachelor's degree or higher, compared to non-dual credit graduates. Overall, dual credit participants had better postsecondary enrollment and award outcomes than non-dual credit graduates.

Currently Leeward Community College is offering 19 Early College courses serving approximately 250 students at the following high school campuses in Spring 2015: Campbell, Leilehua, Nanakuli, Wai'anae, and Waipahu. We have accepted 37 Running Start students for Spring 2015 as well. Students who have participated in either Early College or Running Start at Leeward have an average course success rate that is higher than the average course success rate for our general population of college students.

There is no legislative funding currently appropriated for dual credit programs. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for the cost of participating in Running Start courses, which is likely the reason for the low proportion of high school completers graduating with dual-credit (only 6.4% according to the 2013 CCRI). Schools that offer Early College courses on their campuses have relied on grant money to pay for the cost of courses for their students. However, this source of funding is not sustainable.

We would like to expand this opportunity to more high school students to improve the high school-to-college pipeline. Given the demonstrated benefits of dual credit programs to students and the state as a whole, it is critical that the state provide funding for dual credit programs to allow more students to take advantage of this opportunity to better their future and the future of our state.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Lawrence  
Interim Dean of Student Services  
Leeward Community College

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
gigi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My Name is Gigi Drent, associate professor at Kauai Community College. I have been involved in dual credit program and have been seeing great benefits to our young adults. Early college is an initiative that has been proven to be successful in many states. I am teaching Early College as part of a grant and look forward to our legislation allocating funding so that we can expand the program further. Bottom line is we need 70% of working adults with a college degree. The only way we would be able to do that is to have a dramatic structural change to get 90% of high school students graduate as college ready, 90% of those enroll in college, then 90% of those earn a college degree. Mathematically, the multiplication principle said that would give us  $.90 * .90 * .90$  equals to approx 73% of the high school population to earn a college degree. Historically, only about 20-25% of the high school grads entering the UHCC system ready for college mathematics. So, it is import to get these kids to be college ready and start as soon as possible. Dual Credit Program including Early College is a necessary step to get Hawaii in the right direction. Please give me a call if you need to clarify further. I can provide much more detailed supporting documents to this with better preparation. I am traveling now and doing this on my phone with this short notice. You may contact me at 808-482-1401. Allocating money to this is definitely the way we take care of our future! This program is important to me as an educator and as part of the community. I support this completely!

Testimony presented before the House Committees

On Education and Higher Education

February 3, 2015

By Waianela Boiser, Ed.D.

Special Education Teacher at Kapaa High School

Regarding Bill HB 95 relating to Dual Credit Programs

It is imperative to give all students the opportunity of higher education. Research has shown that the all around benefits of an educated person is not only limited to the person itself, but is also a benefit to the community and our global society.

Our job market industry has changed tremendously since the times of the plantation and agriculture which required laborers. Now job industries are in need of highly skilled people with technical knowledge.

We need to really think about our future of our island and what we would like to see in our communities. Who will our neighbors be? Who will we be working with? Can we compete in a global sense? What are the demands of our future and how will we meet those needs?

I am in strong support of this bill and what it can provide for our future.

Thank you!

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel S. Hamada	Kapaa High School	Support	No

Comments: I am in full support of HB 95 as it expands the current running start legislation to include all credit programs, expands the definition of an eligible student to include all high school students, and replaces the standardized test to determine college readiness with assessments for college placement. Currently, high schools are able to provide dual credit programs in partnership with UH campuses through private foundation grants, tuition payment by families who are able to afford and other grants. As early college high school programs expands and because this targets the underrepresented, low income, first generation college students, the ability to sustain this popular educational program is in jeopardy. We humbly ask that the Legislature fund this opportunity to both the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii.

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Urakami	Waiakea High School Early College	Support	No

Comments: Aloha kāua, My name is David Urakami and I am a teacher and mentor at Waiākea High. I support Early College in high school because I can see the opportunities and experiences it has created not only for our school but for our community here in Hilo. I have noticed a change with our students here at Waiākea High. Students are making choices that directly affect their career choice. Educators tailor their curriculum towards supporting students' success as well as exposing the resources of our community. Our community members "buy" in to supporting our students' career academies, making their education relevant. Amongst the positives, there are challenges that we endure as an Early College program. These experiences help our community grow and guide the next generation to be resilient and positive. This is the product of the Waiākea High School Early College program. I am in support of the Waiākea High School program because it is a positive progression for our community.



**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Troyson Castro	Waiakea High Early College	Support	No

Comments: Aloha my name is Troyson Castro and I am a senior at Waiakea High School. I am a part of the Early College Program that is offered here. I highly recommend it to students who want to want to have a head start on college. I was a student who never took school seriously and I thought life was going to be easy. In high school, I received bad grades and I barely passed my classes. If I was not a part of this Early College Program, I would have not been ready for college. I know that there are many students out there who dont take school seriously just like how I did, but I want them to learn from my mistakes and know that life does not get easier, it gets harder. With the right support they will have a greater chance of getting one step closer to their dreams. I support Early College because it provides an oppurtunity for students to change their life around for the better so that they can one day live their dream.

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ridge	Waiakea High School Early College	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Ridge Quitariano, I joined early college about a year ago in my junior year of high school. Early College is a very special program where its mission is to help the next generation get into college. This program does not force them into college but to make them want to go to college and to show them its a reality and anyone can go to college. When my early college journey began I was immature and naive. The first class, Piko Hawaii was easy and felt like a high school class so with that being i thought this was what college was going to be like. Then I took English 100 which was challenging but in the end i passed. It was when I took Math 100 where i had my biggest downfall where i failed. The old me would have given up but no i grew up and came up with a plan to overcome this obstacle. With my plan i will be taking Math 100 again and at the end of high school i will have 18 college credits. I believe this program should be in every school nation wide. Its amazing to get college credits while still in high school which will help make relevant support or changes to my pathway to my career.

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tyrin Amaral-Antonio	Waiakea High School Early College	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am Tyrin Amaral-Antonio and I'm currently enrolled in the Early College program at Waiakea High School. So far I have taken four college classes and am currently taking three, which totals 19 college credits when I graduate from high school. I support this bill because without early college I would have not been able to realize my dream of becoming a marine biologist. Before being enrolled all I wanted to do is go to the beach, but now I can find a career in that field. I also feel that early college can help students transition into college easier and pave their own career pathway.

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/2/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaysha Derasin-Galsote	Waiakea High School Early College	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Kaysha Derasin-Galsote. I am a senior at Waiakea High School. I have attended my first Early College class, IS197 with Helen Nishimoto at Hawaii Community College during the summer of 2014. Then I took HWST100 with Lokelani Brandt. Which was learning about our Island, the six different districts, stories, and songs. I am currently taking Social Science with Claudia Wilcox. Early College gives high school students the opportunity to experience the college work load and it helps better us to prepare for college. Early College helps us to mentally prepare ourselves to manage multiple classes because being an Early College student, we have to manage our college courses as well with our high school classes. I support HB95 because it helps us figure out what career we want to pursue in the future. Mahalo, Kaysha Derasin-Galsote

Written testimony for the  
House Committees on Education and Higher Education  
February 4, 2015 at 2 pm

By Desire' DeSoto, MSCP  
Counselor Department Head  
Waianae High School

## HB 95 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

Chair Takumi, Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

My name is Desire' DeSoto, I am an 18-year tenured teacher/counselor who has worked at Waianae High School (WHS) since completing a bachelor's degree in 1996 and I strongly support HB 95. 2010 US census data reports only 12% of resident's in the Waianae community are college graduates relative to the 29.4% average in the State of Hawaii which is one of the many reasons I am submitting my testimony in strong support of HB 95. Dual College Programs (DCP's) like Early College High School (ECHS) target economically disenfranchised populations offering families an opportunity to change their financial future for generations to come if and when a family member becomes the first person to attend college.

Personally, as a counselor I have directly witnessed Dual College Programs (DCP's) not only build meaningful relationships with WHS and post high school educational institution(s), but also dual credit courses have given hope and inspiration to individuals who prior to DCP may not have believed they could afford a college education much less pass a college level course while in high school. HB 95 and DCP provide an opportunity for lawmakers to close economic and achievement gaps through supporting post secondary education within the high school, which highlights the primary reason the program should be supported and expanded especially in communities presenting the highest economic need.

Initially the limited offering of DCP courses at WHS in the past were filled with students who did not necessarily reflect the average demographic of the community but rather students who possessed higher standardized scores relative to their majority peers were taking advantage of the program. However, new initiatives associated with ECHS have changed the target population of the traditional DCP and there appears to be a paradigm shift. DCP courses have gained publicity and popularity on the WHS campus and student populations who previously believed myth's their families could not afford college or that they were smart enough to in college are now registering for the increased array of DCP courses our school is providing. I have witnessed students who previously thought college was not a possibility become motivated and plan ways to matriculate into the University of Hawaii system to at least earn an associates degree after passing a college level course.

In summary I would like to repeat my strong support HB 95. In my 18+ years as both a teacher and counselor at WHS, it seems DCP specifically ECHS is a legitimate and empowering attempt to close economic and achievement gaps caused by generational poverty and minority status. We cannot put a price tag on the hope and inspiration given to an individual who is offered a free education to better the economic future of their family. I look forward to the quick approval and support of HB 95.

## HB 95 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS

Chair Takumi, Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

I am writing as both a parent and educator to express my strong support of HB 95, which proposes to expand the current running start legislation to include all dual credit programs, expand the definition of an eligible student to include all high school students, and replaces the standardized test to determine college readiness with assessments for college placement. It also appropriates moneys to these programs.

Dual credit programs are defined as concurrent enrollment programs in both high school and college with the intent and ability to earn both high school credit and college credit for a course. The different forms of dual credit programs give opportunities to students to earn the credits on their high school campus (Early College), at a UH campus (Running Start) or through a career/technical education path at a community college (Jump Start). Hawaii has had a history of promoting dual credit opportunities, mainly through the Running Start program, which allows high achieving high school students to take college level courses for college and high school credit at a UH campus, for over 10 years. The outcomes of these students show that they have higher college-going rates, higher likelihood to enroll in college, higher likelihood to remain in college, and higher likelihood to graduate with a degree or certificate. The University of Hawaii, in partnership with the Hawaii Department of Education, is currently expanding the dual credit program to include the Early College high school program, which allows high school students who would not traditionally go to college such as first generation or low SES students to take college level courses on their high school campus. This reduces barriers and ensures equitable access to more rigorous coursework with the added bonus of the extra supports the high schools can provide in the form of teacher support, tutoring and study groups.

All three high schools on Kauai are working to provide and expand dual credit opportunities for their students. All three provide opportunities for Running Start and Jump Start programs. Additionally, both Kapa'a High and Kauai High are part of a 3 year Early College Grant, which provides instructors from Kauai Community College (KCC) to teach classes to underrepresented, low-income high school students who may be the first in their family to attend college. Waimea High school applied for but did not receive the grant. Currently KCC has located soft money to offer STEM related college courses to Waimea High School students. Currently, high schools are able to run these dual credit programs in partnership with UH campuses through private foundation grants, federal grant dollars, and/or via payment of tuition by families who can afford to pay. Thus, the longevity of these programs is at great risk.

My personal request is that the state funds ALL of the dual credit programs by supporting both the Hawaii Department of Education and the University of Hawaii. There are only 9 states that put the burden of cost of dual credit programs on the family and Hawaii is one of those states. By placing the burden on families, we are limiting student access to higher-level coursework. In working with students, counselors and instructors at both the high school and college level, it is clear that these programs work. They open doors and provide more equitable access to higher-level coursework. They increase the college going rate, the college persistence and success rates. Most importantly, they improve our ability to help students achieve their dreams. These students will ultimately contribute to the sustenance of our economy. The fact that these programs currently rely primarily

on a combination of “soft money” and family ability to pay is detrimental to the long-term development and strengthening of these programs.

The \$1.84 million request to the Hawaii DOE would fund 30 students at every DOE high school to earn up to 6 college credits in one year. There is compelling research demonstrating a strong correlation between earning at least 6 credits in high school and future college-attendance and success rates. It would also fund 2 full time positions – one to act as the fiscal and operations administrator of the funds and distribute the funds equitably to schools; the other to provide programmatic and technical support to the schools and colleges in setting up the programs, determining courses, and acting as liaison between K-12 and higher education. These two positions do not exist currently; currently the functions are performed by temporary personnel at Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education and funded by private and federal grants.

The \$800,000 request to UH would provide scholarships for approximately 1200 students to take Running Start courses (those taken at the college campus) and to be in the Jump Start program (program for 12<sup>th</sup> graders to spend their senior year at the college, taking a full year of a career and technical education program). Some of these students take more than 1 course each year. The funding request would also fund one position to coordinate the scholarship application process, distribute funds to students equitably, and coordinate the early college taskforce. The position currently exists as a temporary position at Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education, funded by private and federal funds.

With two high school students of my own, I am more than thrilled with the opportunities they could have to earn college credits in high school. My husband and I both work in the public education system. We are gravely concerned about the rising and almost prohibitive costs of higher education for our two daughters. Having access to college level courses while they are in high school will significantly and positively impact our ability to send our girls to college. We know and work with many other families who face similar and even tougher realities. As educators, we want this opportunity for ALL students

I am honored and humbled to get to play a small role in this work as part of my professional responsibilities. As we strive diligently to raise the bar of our education system across the state, it is critical that we proactively work together to create pathways for our students. This historic partnership between the University of Hawaii and the Department of Education will help Hawaii be recognized as a leader in Early College. We have the will, the relationships and the expertise for this program to work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Mireles, Ed.D.  
Secondary School Renewal Specialist, Kaua‘i Complex Office  
Parent  
Affiliate Faculty, Chaminade University

I am IN SUPPORT of HB 95.

Having worked in the high school setting, I know that college completion is higher among those students who have traditionally taken Running Start or AP courses, but this is only a small part of our high school community. The majority of our students could be successful at the college level, but the right supports must be in place to guide them through the process. Many of those in the middle are from the lower income, first in their family to college category and while they would like to attend college, many simply do not know where to start. Even if we are able to guide them through the application and financial aid process, many do not finish their degrees or fail to even start college. Once they leave high school, they are likely to fail if the right supports have not been made to assist them.

This is where the Early College program comes in. With Early College, students are able to have the college experience while still in the secure high school environment. We talk about making sure that our students are college ready once they leave us and what can be more appropriate than a program that helps our most needy group learn all the skills that they will need to be successful?

In education, good teaching includes direct instruction, modeling, and independent practice. If we would like our students to be successful in a college setting, we need to give them as many opportunities for independent practice as possible. Early College would be one way that our students can build their resiliency, have a better chance of college success, and become contributing members of our community.



**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrew Frias	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In support, to whom it may concern, It is certainly not at the fault of our students that Hawai'i is among the lowest achieving states in the country. Also, it is not at the fault of our educators for not fighting to achieve the status desired by government and politics. We have changed our education, the measure of assessments and the value that we must meet every year or so, however, this is simple mandate from above, and not an innovation for student success. It is out of mandate, regulation, and a push for data. Early College, HB95, SB374, and related efforts throughout the state are in support of a broadened opportunity for consorted success. We as citizens of Hawai'i partake of culturally, historically and contemporary place. A place so diverse and full of opportunity that each child in our schools need to experience. How can we expect students to know what their interests are if we do not afford them the opportunity to experience it? Perhaps they are intrigued? perhaps not... Early College and Dual Enrollment offers an opportunity of this sort to all spectrums of achievement. It aligns with Associate, CTE, Vocational Training and Baccalaureate programs abound in Hawai'i. Please consider this package as it is. Our children depend on the opportunity and its associated funding. Waiakea High School has been soliciting funding from outside sources to ensure that our students are afforded this opportunity. This is a life changer. Please visit us!!

Andrew Frias  
Transition Coordinator  
W:808.974.4888 x364  
C:808.295.6223

I wish to submit testimony in support of SB 374 and HB 95 regarding Early College

As a partner in promoting college success for more than five years here in Hawaii at both Leeward Community College in my immediate past and now with Hawaii Community College, I wish to express my strong support for legislative funding for Early College initiatives in our state. I have first-hand experience as a former principal and superintendent in New York State with dual enrollment efforts and have seen only positive results from offering college-ready students the opportunity to earn college credits while in high school. Having attended the Early College National Conference in North Carolina last year to help present the excellent results of Leeward Community College's recent grant-funded partnership with Waipahu High School, I can attest to the fact that Early College works best in those states where there is strong legislative and gubernatorial support, including the allocation of funds to support students taking college classes at a significant scale.

National data clearly demonstrate that those students who earn college credits while in high school are significantly more likely to graduate from both high school and from college. States like Texas, North Carolina, Tennessee, Ohio and Georgia have programs of significant scale that promote the active participation of as many students as can show their ability to benefit, such that students can earn both their high school diploma and an Associate degree concurrently. One of my former students, now a teacher in New York himself, recently told me proudly about his daughter's experience in doing exactly that – earning her high school diploma and her AA last June from Tompkins-Cortland Community College through the dual enrollment Early College program there, a partnership I helped initiate more than twenty-five years ago.

A parent of a current Running Start student myself, I strongly support the notion that Hawaii's high schoolers deserve the same chance to advance their college aspiration as high school students have in many other mainland states. Data show of the 47 states (plus the District of Columbia) that have statewide policies in place governing dual credit programs, only 9 require parents to pay for the students participation. Hawaii is sadly one of those nine under the current Running Start legislation. This is the time to change that.

I strongly encourage our legislature to appropriately accept the challenge of working with the University and the DOE to promote college success for all of our young adults and enable achievement of the 55 by 25 goal, by harnessing the momentum already established by Waipahu High School, P-20 and others and supporting a budget bill offered perhaps uniquely by both UH and DOE as articulated in SB 374 and HB 95.

If there is anything further I can do to promote Hawaii joining the many other states that actively support such Early College initiatives, please have a member of your staff contact me at Hawaii Community College at 808-934-2519 or at [cmanaser@hawaii.edu](mailto:cmanaser@hawaii.edu).

Thank you for considering this important legislative proposal.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Manaseri, Ph.D.  
Dean of Liberal Arts and Public Services  
Hawaii Community College

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ian Nitta	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha House of Education & House of Higher Education, My Name is Ian Nitta, I am a teacher at Kapaa High School on Kauai. I am also a support instructor for the Early College, Math 103 taught by a professor from Kauai Community College at our school. The program has been a great success in preparing our students for the rigor of college. Our students really step up to the high expectations of college academics and professionalism. I would really like to see this opportunity continue. Mahalo for your consideration. Sincerely, Ian Nitta

I am in support of HB 95 which provides dual credit options for high school students. As a partner of Farrington High School, Honolulu Community College has seen an increase in interested students who wish to pursue dual credit options. In order for our students to stay competitive nationwide, it is critical to fund opportunities to allow students to pursue dual credits. I am in full support of HB 95 and hope that full consideration will be given to this bill.

I strongly support HB 95 which provides Dual Credit options for high school students, in partnership with Farrington High School and Honolulu Community College.

The will help our students leave high school with the skills they need to succeed at the college level and be able to start their college years with college credits, thereby decreasing the amount of time and money needed to earn a college degree.

I urge you to support this bill.

**HB95**

Submitted on: 2/4/2015

Testimony for EDN/HED on Feb 4, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Elizabeth Garrison	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB95

**LATE**

**LATE**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

**LATE**

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL  
94-1211 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY  
WAIPAHU, HI 96797

Testimony presented before the  
House Committees on Education and Higher Education  
February 4, 2015 at 2 pm  
Keith Hayashi  
Principal

HB 95 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS  
POSITION: Support

Aloha Chair Takumi, Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

Waipahu High School began offering Early College courses in the Summer of 2012 through a partnership with the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. Thirty student pioneers in Psychology 100 garnered a 100% passing rate, an attendance rate of 98%, and a class grade average of 87%. For five weeks, these students began class at 9:00 AM, ended at noon, and returned for study sessions from 1:00 through 3:00 PM. These students were highly motivated and successful.

As a result, in the Fall of 2012, Waipahu High School partnered with Leeward Community College, offering English 100 and Speech 151. Once again our students did extremely well. And thanks to the generous support from the McInerney Foundation, Waipahu High School has continued to provide Early College opportunities for our underrepresented minority youth. Our enrollment in Early College has steadily grown, and in the 2014 Fall semester, 179 students were enrolled in college courses on the Waipahu High School campus.

High school students, poised and confident, are prepared to enter the next phase of their Early College journey by taking Early College courses at the college campus. Students who've leveraged dual credit opportunities and completed their high school credit requirements, can now focus intently on college coursework while still participating in high school athletics and extra-curricular activities. We currently have high school students who are full-time college students.

As some of you may recall, on August 26, 2014, a dozen Early College students exercised exceptional leadership and civic engagement by visiting with members of the Senate Education, House Education, and House Higher Education Committees and shared their personal stories, the transformative power of Early College. They shared how their Early College opportunities gave them confidence when they thought that college was not an option. They shared how the positive impact of Early College has influenced their families, siblings, and friends. They shared how they believed that Early College opportunities should be available to all high school students. Their stories are why we must continue to fully support the Early College movement for all students in Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

**LATE**

Aloha Chair Takumi, Vice-Chair Ohno and Representatives of the House Education Committee:

Thank you Representative Choy for introducing this bill. I support HB 95 with some recommended to add.

**The bill states:** “The purpose of this Act is to broaden current law to include all dual credit programs, to broaden eligibility of students, to allow for multiple measures of eligibility assessment, and to appropriate funds for the instruction, courses, and administration of college credits, thus allowing broader student participation in dual credit programs.”

I ask that “students” be defined as public, private or homeschool. I am a homeschool mother who has a daughter currently dual enrolled at Leeward Community College (LCC) and two others that have since graduated but attended both Honolulu Community College (HCC) and LCC.

For most homeschool families, we are one-income households. The financial help would be tremendous. We receive no financial assistance or breaks while educating our children, even though our tax dollars are heavily utilized for education.

Also, there are no uniformed standards for homeschool students in the dual-enrolled programs at the community colleges; they are different at each campus. Also, there are different acceptance standards within an institution between homeschool and public school students.

I support HB 95, but believe the monies spent and standards set must include all students equally, public, private and homeschool.

Mahalo for your time and thoughtful consideration,

Lisa Poulos