

# HCR103

Measure Title: REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Report Title: Department of Education; Vocational Program; Task Force; Repair and Maintenance

Description:

Companion: [HR60](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: EDU, WAM

Introducer(s): POUHA, FUKUMOTO CHANG, KOBAYASHI, MCDERMOTT, THIELEN, WARD



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

**Date:** 04/15/2016  
**Time:** 01:30 PM  
**Location:** 229  
**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Resolution:** HCR 103 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

**Purpose of Resolution:**

**Department's Position:**

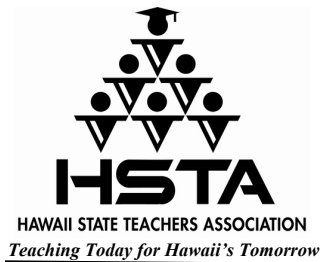
The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HCR 103.

For this Committee's information, the Department has an established Career and Technical program in building and construction which provides training for students in the appropriate and safe use of tools related to the field of construction. These programs allow for students to participate in a work-based learning program that may include live repair and maintenance projects on a school site.

With regards to potential liability and licensing issues, student projects should be limited to non-emergency repairs and projects that do not require electrical or plumbing licenses. Additional personnel for program coordination, direct instruction, and supervision of students are essential and critical elements for a successful work-based learning program.

The Department is open to meeting with the introducers of this measure to establish a task force to convene during the 2016-17 school year that could, amongst other things, review existing career and technical education programs, identify programmatic requirements necessary to create a student repair and maintenance program, including but not limited to academic, personnel (including any necessary licensing), operations, procurement and fiscal needs for effective program implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



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Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION

RE: HCR 103 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO  
ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL  
PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

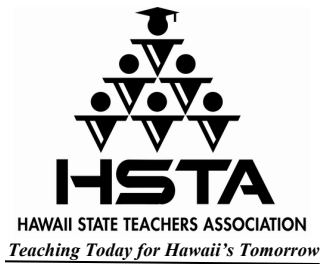
Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **strongly supports HCR 103**, requesting the Department of Education to establish a task force to reintroduce vocational programs at public schools.

According to the Hawaii State Department of Education, “Career and Technical Education is an educational structure that allows students the opportunity to explore and learn through the practical application of academic and technical skills and knowledge. The support and involvement of business and industry in CTE is critical to the preparation of tomorrow's skilled workforce.”

Yet, there is concern among CTE stakeholders (teachers, industry experts, and employers) about the lack of CTE inclusion in federal education legislation. As a result of the emphasis on high stakes accountability, secondary schools across the state have diverted CTE funding to core content areas, especially English Language Arts and mathematics.

A majority of all current job openings, both locally and nationally, are for positions that do not require a college degree. While education reform rhetoric endlessly extols “college and career readiness,” job projections by the Hawai‘i Department of Labor show that, overall, more than 72 percent of the state’s projected openings through 2022 require a high school diploma or less. For comparison, about 15



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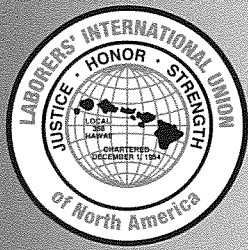
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Secretary-Treasurer

**Wilbert Holck**  
Executive Director

percent of future openings require a bachelor's degree and only 4 percent require a master's, doctoral, or professional degree.

Hawai'i's CTE offerings must be expanded, then, to allow young people to design their own futures. According to a national study, only 25 percent of polled job seekers reported receiving career pathing in high school, however, with 41 percent saying that they wished they had received more vocational guidance. Careers taught through the state's CTE program—from automotive technology to entrepreneurship to environmental management to digital media—are at the cutting edge of our local economy, requiring skills that students and employers desire, and that the CCRI paradigm fails to advance.

Because many students can succeed without a college degree, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this resolution.



# LIUNA!

April 14, 2016

**THE HONORABLE SENATOR MICHELLE KIDANI, CHAIR**

Senate Committee on Education

April 15, 2016, 1:30pm

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

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*Auditor*

**RE: HCR 103 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Aloha Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Harimoto, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

My name is Gino Soquena, and I am the Government & Community Relations Director for The Laborers' International Union of North America Local 368 which represents almost 5,000 members throughout the State of Hawaii. The Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 stands in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HCR 103 (REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS).

The Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 has long been supporters of vocational programs in public schools. We understand that not all high school graduates may want to attend college and some may want to pursue a career in construction. The Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 has an apprenticeship program called "The Hawaii Laborers' Training Program" and we are continuously looking for new people who would like to pursue a career in construction via our apprenticeship program.

We believe that HCR 103 will be a start in the right direction that will give students the opportunity and the option of choosing what career they want for their future. The Laborers' Union Local 368 respectfully requests your favorable decision for HCR 103.

Sincerely,

**Gino Soquena**  
Government & Community Relations Director  
Laborers' International Union of North America Local 368

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Honolulu, HI 96817  
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**Feel the Power**



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

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**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 103, REQUESTING THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO  
REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Senate Committee on Education  
Hon. Michelle N. Kidani, Chair  
Hon. Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair**

**Friday, April 15, 2016, 1:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

Honorable Chair Kidani and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that boasts over 350 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony **in support of** HCR 103, requesting the Department of Education to establish a task force to reintroduce vocational programs at public schools.

In recent years, education rhetoric has revolved around the misguided notion of “college and career readiness,” a banner phrase for preparing all students to attend universities. Yet, today, college affordability is at an all-time low, student debt at an all-time high, and vocational skills found wanting by employers. According to the Hawai‘i Department of Labor, more than 72 percent of the state’s projected openings through 2022 require a high school diploma or less, while only 15 percent of future openings require a bachelor’s degree and only 4 percent require a master’s, doctoral, or professional degree. Thus, to truly promote “college and ***career*** readiness,” we must invest in vocational and career pathway programming, in which students may learn such vocations as animation, emergency medical services, environmental sciences, marketing, culinary skills, engineering, and, ironically, elementary and secondary education.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify **in support of** this resolution.

Sincerely,  
Kris Coffield  
*Executive Director*  
IMUAlliance

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR103 on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 12, 2016 11:48:24 AM

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**HCR103**

Submitted on: 4/12/2016

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                 | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Nancy Redfeather    | Hawaii Island School Garden Network | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: The time has come to review again, the value of career and technical (vocational) tracks for our High School students in Hawai'i. Such expanded program tracks would give our students the ability to go deeper, gain additional knowledge and skills, and practical experience, to leave high school and find work in fields that interest them. Not all students are destined for college, and this would help to create new opportunities to build the workforce for all the needs of Hawai'i.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR103 on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 12:59:50 PM

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### **HCR103**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| George Mataele      | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Wednesday, April 13, 2016 Aloha and Malo Lelei, My name is George Mataele and I am an MSW candidate at the University of Hawai'i Manoa. For the past year I have worked as a Social Worker at the Farrington High School Teen Center under Alison Colby, MSW. Serving within the Farrington Community, I have seen first hand that the term "Education" in itself is a broad term that can have various interpretations. So often our society seeks to "roboticize" and create an assembly line where predicted results become a "one size fits all" mentality. This mentality becomes damaging in our work because of the inequalities within our society. So often our education system seeks to fit square pegs into circular sized holes. It simply does not work. The practice of having vocational training within schools allows more of a variety for our students to choose their own path in life. Especially for our students who engage in high risk and at risk behaviors, having a hands on vocational approach can be an effective intervention for non traditional students. In essence, these vocational programs can save non-traditional students from falling through the cracks. I fully support this measure to create a task force for vocational programs and I ask for you support as well. Sincerely, George Mataele

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR103 on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 13, 2016 11:16:45 AM

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**HCR103**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

| <b>Submitted By</b>   | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Javier Mendez-Alvarez | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

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**HCR103**

Submitted on: 4/13/2016

Testimony for EDU on Apr 15, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 229

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Troy Abraham        | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments: Job training in schools would help students prepare easier and smoother to succeed in work.

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