



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

Date: 04/05/2016
Time: 02:15 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

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.

Hawai'i Construction Alliance

P.O. Box 179441
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 348-8885

April 4, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
and members
House Committee on Finance
Hawai'i State Legislature
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Support for HCR103/HR60, Requesting the Department of Education to Establish a Task Force to Reintroduce Vocational Programs at Public Schools

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Union, Local 630; International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Local 1; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3. Together, our member unions represent 15,000 working men and women in the basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

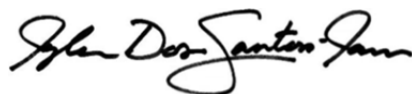
We have long been supporters of vocational programs in our public schools, which play a crucial role in developing a job-ready workforce in the construction industry and other critical fields.

As such, we would like to express our support for HCR103/HR60, which calls upon the Superintendent of Education to establish a task force to: (1) Identify vocational programs that are appropriate for implementation at public high schools; (2) Develop vocational program curricula for public high school students; and (3) Identify any costs of or barriers to reintroducing vocational programs at public high schools. The Superintendent of Education would also be requested to invite representatives from trade unions and apprenticeship training programs of the community colleges to join or provide input to the task force.

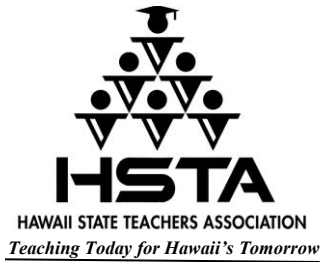
The Hawai'i Construction Alliance unions operate several training programs, including the Hawai'i Carpenters Apprenticeship and Training Fund, the Hawai'i Laborers' Training Program, the Hawai'i Masons Training Center, and the Operating Engineers Hawai'i Training Center. It would be an honor and privilege for representatives from our unions' programs to participate.

Therefore, we respectfully request your committee's favorable action on HCR103/HR60.

Mahalo,



Tyler Dos Santos-Tam
Executive Director
Hawai'i Construction Alliance
execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org



LATE

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Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE

RE: HCR 103/HR 60 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL
PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **strongly supports HCR 103/HR 60**, 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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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.



LATE

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

**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 103/HOUSE
RESOLUTION 60, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**House Committee on Finance
Hon. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Hon. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2016, 2:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

Honorable Chair Luke 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/HR60, 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