



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

Date: 03/15/2017

Time: 09:30 AM

Location: 329

Committee: House Human Services

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: HCR 034 REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES, THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FREE SENIOR ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND THE POTENTIAL TO PROVIDE NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES TO SENIOR CITIZENS.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

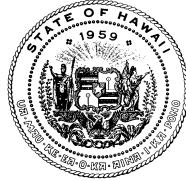
Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports HCR 34 to establish a working group to review currently offered adult education services and opportunities.

We are committed to our continued interagency work and collaboration with the Executive Office on Aging; the University of Hawaii; City and County of Honolulu Parks and Recreation Department; Kokua Council; and the AARP Hawaii to provide new and improved learning programs for older adults.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HCR 34.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



TERRI BYERS
DIRECTOR

VIRGINIA PRESSLER, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT
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Testimony COMMENTING on HCR0034
Requesting the Executive Office on Aging and the University of Hawaii Center on Aging to Establish a Working Group to Review the Department of Education Adult Education Services, the University of Hawaii Free Senior Enrollment Opportunities, and the Potential to Provide New Learning Opportunities to Senior Citizens

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
REPRESENTATIVE DEE MORIKAWA, CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS TODD, VICE CHAIR

Testimony of Terri Byers
Director, Executive Office on Aging
Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: March 15, 2017
9:30 a.m.

Room Number: 329

- 1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department
2 of Health would like to provide comments on this measure.
- 3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this concurrent resolution is to request that the
4 Executive Office on Aging (EOA) and the University of Hawaii Center on Aging establish a
5 working group to review adult education services and opportunities presently offered to seniors,
6 consider whether it would be effective to consolidate some programs in order to provide new and
7 improved learning opportunities, and explore other potential education programs that might be
8 beneficial to seniors.
- 9 This concurrent resolution was previously introduced in 2015 and 2016. Recognizing the
10 importance of improving adult education services and opportunities for Hawaii's growing older

1 adult population, the EOA, through a contract with the University of Hawaii Center on Aging,
2 formed a working group in the Fall of 2016. This working group assessed adult education
3 services and opportunities that are provided to Hawaii's seniors and then developed a report of
4 their recommendations and findings.

5 The working group met between September and December 2016, and consisted of
6 representatives from the University of Hawaii, Hawaii Department of Education, City and
7 County of Honolulu Parks and Recreation Department, Kokua Council, AARP Hawaii, and the
8 EOA. Over the course of these meetings, the work group shared each other's programmatic
9 efforts, and discussed areas of focus, strengths, issues/gaps, and the need for adult education
10 services and opportunities in Hawaii. The broad range of educational courses offered was
11 recognized as a strength, but the group also identified the need to better understand the specific
12 target group of older adults that each of the different educational programs serve to enable
13 improved marketing of these programs to the community. After in-depth discussions, the
14 working group made the following recommendations in their report:

- 15 1. The consolidation of adult education programs for seniors are not recommended.
16 Though some adult education programs may seem duplicative they are often
17 necessary due to geographic constraints and transportation challenges of our kupuna.
18 Rather than consolidating programs, the group recommended sharing effective
19 marketing strategies, program instructors, and other resources.
- 20 2. Continue existing collaborations between different agencies that provide adult
21 education and learning opportunities for seniors. The working group members
22 recommended that they continue to meet as a group to discuss issues and lessons

1 learned in administering their education programs for seniors. In addition, the group
2 is open to identifying and collaborating on new learning opportunity initiatives.

3 3. It is important to have commitment from the Hawaii State Legislature for ongoing
4 support on issues relating to the aging population and the vital role that adult
5 education plays to Hawaii's older adults. The working group is willing to share
6 information on existing educational opportunities available to Hawaii's aging
7 population and their ideas on the direction that adult education should take in the
8 future.

9 4. New ideas, initiatives, and pilot projects that encourages opportunities to advance
10 educational opportuntites for older adults are recommended by the working group.
11 The work group recommends opportunities to advance adult education, including
12 scholarships or reduced tuition for adult learners, an adult education resource website,
13 or a needs assessment and small scale piloting of best practice programs.

14 In summary, work group members valued the opportunity to discuss their ideas on how to more
15 effectively provide adult education opportunities for seniors. They appreciated the interest and
16 support from the Legislature to examine and advance these issues.

17 **Recommendation:** While the work group report prepared by the University of Hawaii Center
18 on Aging recommends next steps, EOA has limited resources both financially and
19 administratively to implement these recommendations.

20 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



House of Representatives
Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, March 15, 2017
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 329

To: Representative Dee Morikawa, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice-Chair

RE: HCR 34 REQUESTING TO CONVENE A WORK GROUP TO REVIEW ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES AND NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

AARP is a membership organization of people age fifty and over with nearly 150,000 members in Hawaii. AARP advocates and provides information on issues that matter to our kupuna and their families, including affordable, accessible, quality healthcare, financial resiliency, and livable communities.

HCR 34 requests the Executive Office on Aging and the University of Hawaii, Center on Aging to establish a working group to review the Department of Education adult education services, the University of Hawaii free senior enrollment opportunities and the potential to provide new learning opportunities to senior citizens.

AARP Hawaii testifies in support of HCR 34 and appreciates the opportunity to participate in this work group.

AARP advocates and supports building a livable community where older adults can pursue lifelong learning opportunities, gain new knowledge and skills, and enjoy the arts and culture that enhance their lives and experiences. There are several educational institutions that offer adult education programs, however some curriculum may be duplicative while limited availability and funding for others. This work group will review the existing inventory of educational programs and services; and examine ways to consolidate, coordinate and improve the delivery of these educational services that will benefit older adult learners.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

todd2 - Chloe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 3:33 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR34 on Mar 10, 2017 09:30AM*

HCR34

Submitted on: 3/7/2017

Testimony for HUS on Mar 10, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 2:57 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: tjdavies@juno.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR34 on Mar 10, 2017 09:30AM*

HCR34

Submitted on: 3/7/2017

Testimony for HUS on Mar 10, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
T.J. Davies	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 8:48 PM
To: HUS testimony
Cc: rkailianu57@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HCR34 on Mar 10, 2017 09:30AM*

HCR34

Submitted on: 3/7/2017

Testimony for HUS on Mar 10, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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todd2 - Chloe

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 4:22 PM
To: HUSstestimony
Cc: burgharc@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR34 on Mar 15, 2017 09:30AM

HCR34

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HUS on Mar 15, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 329

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

Comments: As a senior who has tried numerous times to take classes at UH through their program for seniors, I can tell you that it is not a friendly environment to try and figure out how to enroll or take classes. For the last few semesters, I have been told that they are revamping and no new enrollees can be taken. This has been going on for much longer than it should. When I retired, one of the things I was most excited about was taking classes at UH. I hope that this will be fixed.

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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

LATE

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Human Services
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

By
Noreen Mokuau, Dean
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HCR 34 – REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CENTER ON AGING TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES, THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FREE SENIOR ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND THE POTENTIAL TO PROVIDE NEW LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES TO SENIOR CITIZENS.

Chair Morikawa and Vice Chair Todd and Members of the Committee:

As Dean of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work, I appreciate the opportunity to provide an update on efforts by the UH Center on Aging (COA) in examining adult education offerings in Hawai'i.

In response to SR118 SD1 from 2015, the Hawai'i Department of Health, Executive Office on Aging (EOA), contracted with the UH COA to carry out the tasks outlined in the resolution. SR118 SD1 listed recommended potential participants to be involved in the workgroup, and the UHM COA approached these participants. The resolution also tasked the workgroup with examining program offerings statewide, identifying potential areas of duplication and assessing the need for consolidation, and producing policy recommendations. The 2017 resolution, HCR34, has similar language and goals.

The workgroup convened three times between September and December 2016. Then, the UH COA produced a draft report, incorporated comments and feedback from the adult education workgroup members, and produced a final report to EOA at the end of February 2017. EOA will submit the report to the Legislature, as appropriate.

To summarize, the report identified a diverse range of programs offered for free or low-cost through the UH system and Department of Education. The group did not recommend consolidation of programs. Although programs may seem duplicative of each other, they are often necessary due to geographic constraints and transportation challenges of our kūpuna. The group's findings include the need to better assess the interests and preferences of kūpuna for adult education topics and programs, to strengthen outreach and marketing activities, and to pilot new ideas.

If the House Committee on Human Services requests additional information regarding learning opportunities for adult education, the COA would be pleased to support such efforts in collaboration with workgroup participants.