



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

**Date:** 02/01/2017  
**Time:** 02:45 PM  
**Location:** 229  
**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 0619 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requests the department of education, in collaboration and consultation with the department of business, economic development, and tourism; the department of labor and industrial relations; and the University of Hawaii, to develop a K-12 curriculum to career pipeline initiative that will ensure the State's public school students are adequately trained and prepared to enter the State's workforce upon graduation from high school.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 619 and offers the following comments.

Together with industry members and the State Career Technical Education office at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the Department has created a statewide plan focused on creating a standards-based K-12 progression to prepare students for a career pipeline.

The Department is actively collaborating with all secondary schools across the state to prepare students with the appropriate skills, certification, licensing or college credit to enter the workforce.

Further, since Spring 2016, the Department has convened a Career Readiness Cross-Sector State Leadership Team (Cross-Sector Team). Members include:

- Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations;
- Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism;
- President of the University of Hawaii System;
- Vice President for University of Hawai'i Community Colleges;
- Chair of the State Workforce Development Council;
- State Director for Career and Technical Education;
- Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable;

- Executive Director of Hawaii Chamber of Commerce, affiliated with regional and ethnic chambers statewide;
- State Superintendent of Schools;
- Assistant Superintendent of the Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Support;
- Two founding principals of secondary school Hawaii Career Academies built around industry-informed career pathways in both a rural island setting and an urban region; and
- President and Chief Executive Officer of the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation.

The overall goal for the Cross-Sector Team is to ensure state agencies, business networks, and educational institutions align their organizational and collective strategic efforts behind a unified approach to transforming the state's career pathway systems. This team will meet at least twice a year to collaborate and consult on an ongoing basis.

The initiative focuses on: Demand Driven Employer Led Processes; Rigor and Quality in Career Pathways for All; Career-Focused Accountability System; Scaled Pathways that Culminate in Credentials; Align State and Federal Funding Streams; and Ensure Cross-Institutional Alignment between K-12 and Higher Education.

Given the Department's Career Technical Education plan and interagency collaboration currently in place, we respectfully submit that this measure is not needed at this time.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 619.



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Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
EDUCATION

RE: SB 619 - RELATING TO EDUCATION.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2017

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 619**, relating to education.

According 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.”

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, doing a disservice to our students.

A majority of all current job openings, both locally and nationally, are for positions that do not require a college degree, but do require technical expertise in specific areas. 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, and they require more technical training than we are currently offering our students in Hawaii. For comparison, about 15 percent of future openings require a bachelor's degree and only 4 percent require a master's, doctoral, or professional degree.



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Hawai'i's CTE offerings must be expanded, and having optional curriculum developed for K-12 to career pipeline will support teachers in allowing 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, 41 percent stated that they wished they had received more vocational guidance prior to graduating from high school. Careers taught through the state's CTE program—from automotive technology, entrepreneurship, environmental management to digital media, coding, computer science, engineering, foreign language, and other technology-based jobs—are at the cutting edge of our local economy, requiring skills that students and employers desire, and that the CCRI paradigm fails to advance.

Research shows the positive benefits of a strong career and technical education program within our schools. CTE decreases the risks of dropping out of high school, and graduation rates for CTE are higher than the national graduation rates. "Participation in skills-training programs has increased wages and earnings, raised the probability and consistency of employment and led to work in higher quality jobs."

Because this initiative will provide a wide variety of opportunities for our students to succeed in a variety of careers, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2017 9:33 PM  
**To:** EDU Testimony  
**Cc:** mkhan@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB619 on Feb 1, 2017 14:45PM

**SB619**

Submitted on: 1/27/2017

Testimony for EDU on Feb 1, 2017 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: This bills seems to be all over the map. In what occupations is there a shortage of applicants? STEM jobs, manufacturing jobs, service industry jobs? Is pay part of the problem because of the high cost of living in Hawaii? I've had friends with excellent credentials and work habits that have left Hawaii for places on the CONUS simply because of the high cost of living in Hawaii.

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