

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 02/07/2017

**Time:** 02:01 PM

**Location:** 309

**Committee:** House Higher Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** HB 1169 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires UH to promote careers in teaching to high school students.  
Appropriates funds.

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1169. The Department supports opportunities to promote and attract high school students statewide to teaching careers in our public schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1169.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

---

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
February 7, 2017 at 2:01 p.m.

by  
Risa E. Dickson  
Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy  
University of Hawai'i System

### HB 1169 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Hashem and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 1169 that will provide funds for the University to promote teaching as a career to high school students.

According to the Hawai'i Department of Education, there are critical and persistent shortage areas in special education, STEM, Hawaiian, CTE, and English. Our campuses are working with established programs to meet these needs, and to increase the number of teachers in the state.

The University recently began system wide discussions to address the critical teacher shortage in Hawai'i. The two specific areas of focus are increased attention on the recruitment of candidates for the multiple programs that prepare teachers for licensure, and working with the Hawai'i Department of Education to retain in-service teachers. Another identified strategy is to work directly with high school students interested in a career in education.

Several UH campuses are currently working with high schools that provide programs for students interested in teaching, such as teacher academies. The University is also in discussion about which education courses would be appropriate to offer through Early College. HB 1169 would help the University to reach more students about the benefits of a degree in education while promoting teaching, particularly in those critical areas.

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 1169 on the condition that any appropriated funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Biennium budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Personal Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 2:00 pm Rm 309

By  
Donald B. Young

HB 1169 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Young and I serve as Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. However, today I am submitting personal testimony in support of HB1169, Relating to the University of Hawai‘i.

HB 1169 will support efforts of the University to promote teaching as a career to high school students. Our College of Education faculty currently work with students at Waianae High School, Waipahu High School, Farrington High School, Pearl City High School, and Leilehua High School, where teacher academies or some variation of them currently exist to support students interested in teaching as a career. Recently, we have identified pathways through which these students can progress on various UH campuses to achieve a teaching license. We are exploring courses in education that can be provided to these students through Early College. But we can do more by creating and implementing a statewide campaign to promote teaching and the benefits of a degree in education.

The Hawai‘i Department of Education reports there are critical and persistent shortage areas in special education, STEM, Hawaiian, CTE, and English. Our College has programs already in place that can accommodate new candidates in these and other fields, including students still in high school.

I therefore welcome this bill and the potential funding that could come with its passage, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University’s Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

**HB 1169: Relating to the University of Hawai'i Promoting Teaching to High School Students**

To whom it may concern:

As a private citizen, I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB 1169.

I am graduate of Leeward Community College, the University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa, I am a former Hawaii public school teacher, and I currently serve as Director of Student Services at the UH Mānoa College of Education.

According to the Hawaii Department of Education (DOE), **Hawaii is currently facing a shortage of teachers in our public schools.** This is especially pronounced in the following areas as reported by the DOE to the Federal Government.

- English/Reading
- Hawaiian
- Hawaiian Immersion
- Mathematics
- Science
- Special Education
- Vocational/Technical

**Many teaching positions are filled with unlicensed personnel and in rural areas of our state.**

A number of factors need to be addressed in order to alleviate our teacher shortage.

**One key factor is to counter the growing negative perception of a becoming a teacher.**

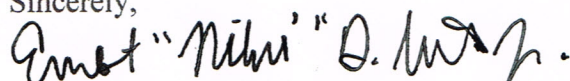
HB 1169 will serve this endeavor by supporting the UH in promoting a positive image of the teaching profession in public high schools. Teaching is a noble and honorable occupation with many touching stories of how lives have been impacted by the educational experiences that teachers provide. Furthermore, students often single out particular teachers as role models and remember their influence for the rest of their lives.

As a result of this promotion, high school students who consider becoming teachers can then turn to the **many well-established teacher education pathways offered through our UH system**, whether they decide to enter via the UH community Colleges or the UH four-year campuses.

**Perhaps the most profound outcome represented by HB 1169 is that Hawaii will be encouraging "home grown" teachers who understand our unique island state and its people. These individuals are far more likely to stay in Hawaii to teach and be effective teachers.**

Thank you for your time in reviewing my testimony. If you have any questions, I may be reached by email at [nikilibarios@hotmail.com](mailto:nikilibarios@hotmail.com) or by phone at 754-1731.

Sincerely,



Ernest "Niki" D. Libarios Jr., Ph.D.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** aarondday777@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1169 on Feb 7, 2017 14:01PM

**HB1169**

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HED on Feb 7, 2017 14:01PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Aaron Day	Individual	Support	No

Comments: With the current number of teacher vacancies and the recent decline in local graduates from local teacher programs, something must be done to ensure that we will have teachers in the future. We constantly bring in teachers from the mainland, but many do not stay for more than a few years. Recruiting teachers locally would give a greater chance they would stay as they are already tied to the community. Programs like this could be the start of reversing the current trend.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 4, 2017 5:32 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** aurasaki@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB1169 on Feb 7, 2017 14:01PM

**HB1169**

Submitted on: 2/4/2017

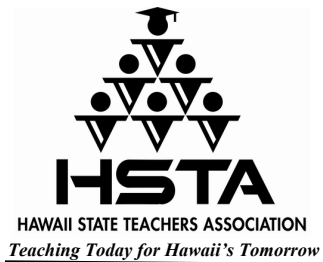
Testimony for HED on Feb 7, 2017 14:01PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In support of this measure. Mahalo.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)



**LATE**

1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

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

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
HIGHER EDUCATION

RE: HB 1169 - RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

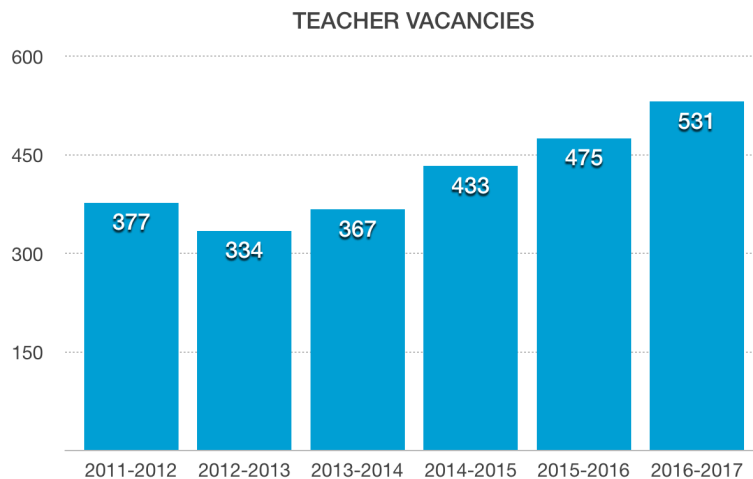
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2017

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

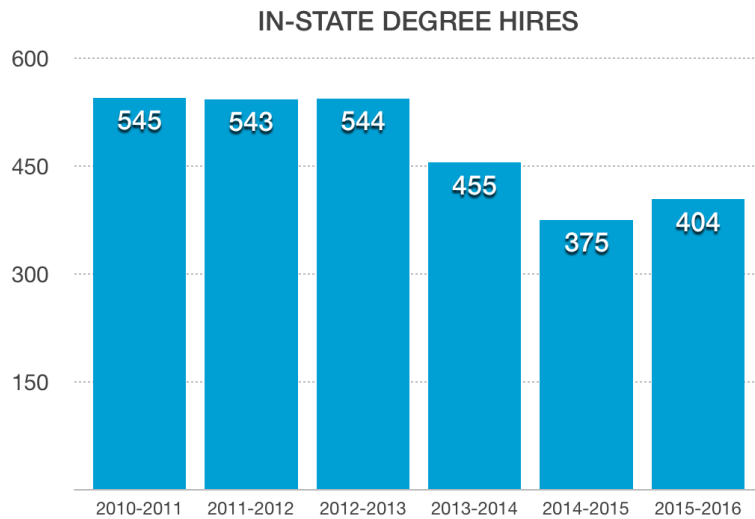
Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 1169**, relating to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

In Hawai'i, insufficient funding has led to a teacher shortage crisis. From 2011 to 2014, the DOE suffered an average of 359 unfilled vacancies per year. Yet, departmental data showed 531 vacancies for the 2016-2017 school year, a 45 percent increase from the 2013-14 school year.



Similarly, the number of new teacher hires who have completed in in-state state approved teacher education program has dwindled from 545 in 2010-2011 to 404 in 2015-2016, a fall of 26 percent.



Requiring the University of Hawai'i to promote the teaching profession to high school students could cut down on the number of mainlanders the DOE hires each year to fill vacant positions, while trimming the overall number teacher vacancies throughout the department. Moreover, if successful, the new teacher recruitment program would augment the local teaching talent pool, connecting potentially gifted educators with the communities they know best and the students they are most able to serve. Accordingly, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.





**LATE**

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

---

**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 1169, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY  
OF HAWAII**

**House Committee on Higher Education  
Hon. Justin H. Woodson, Chair  
Hon. Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 2:01 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

Honorable Chair Woodson and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMU Alliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 350 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of House Bill 1169, relating to the University of Hawai'i.

At the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year, media outlets widely reported that the DOE faced 625 vacant teaching positions. While the Department of Education currently includes the percentage of teaching positions filled on the first day of school as a statewide indicator in its strategic plan, this statistic does not detail the quality or competency of the teachers filling vacant positions. The number of new teachers hired who have not completed a teacher education program has increased from 125 for the 2011-2012 school year to 241 for the 2015-2016 school year. Over the same period, the number of teacher resignations has increased from 624 in 2011-2012 to 781 in 2015-2016, while the total number of voluntary teacher separations has increased from 934 in 2011-2012 to 1,075 in 2015-2016. In short, hundreds of teachers are fleeing the workforce each year at an accelerating pace, while the DOE does not have enough trained and licensed teachers in waiting to fill the holes they leave.

This measure would require the University of Hawai'i to promote the teaching profession to high school students. The number of new teachers hired who possess a degree from an in-state state approved teacher education program has fallen from 545 in 2010-2011 to 404 in 2015-2016. As we find innovative ways to

reduce the teacher shortage crisis in our state, we must better engage local students to erase the stigma attached to the teaching profession and encourage them to become educators in their homeland.

Quality teachers provide all children with a chance at a brighter future. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,  
Kris Coffield  
*Executive Director*  
IMUAlliance