



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
February 6, 2018 at 2:10 p.m.

By  
John Morton  
Vice President for Community Colleges  
University of Hawai'i System

### HB 1638 HD1 – RELATING TO APPRENTICESHIPS

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

The University of Hawai'i is in concurrence with the intent of HB 1638. This measure would provide funding to continue and expand health care apprenticeship programs at the University of Hawai'i community colleges.

We previously testified on this measure in front of the House Committee on Health Human Services and informed the committee that in February 2017, Kapi'olani Community College (KapCC) entered into a contract with the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for \$1,167,291 for the purpose of establishing apprenticeship programs for culinary and healthcare. Of this amount, \$510,609 was for the area of healthcare for Community Health Workers, Pharmacy Technicians, and Optometry Assistants. This contract runs through the end of April 2018, and given the projected balances, the College will be requesting a no-cost extension to continue these programs. In terms of our progress on partnering with the industry, since September 2017, KapCC has fostered eleven instructional apprenticeship partnerships with nine employers including Queen's Medical Center, Hawai'i Pacific Health, Hawai'i Primary Care Association, Hawai'i Optometric Association Project, Retina Institute of Hawai'i, Partners in Care Hawai'i, ALEA, and Hawai'i Independent Physician's Association. The College is also looking to expand apprenticeship programs to Nursing Assistants and Medical Laboratory Technicians; funding for these two fields was not included as part of the original contract.

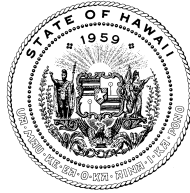
We appreciate the HHS Committee's acceptance of our recommended revisions and after discussing the HD1 with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, we recommend reverting back to the bill's original language on Page 1, Lines 10-11. The last sentence of Section 1 should be revised to read as follows:

“Upon completion of an approved apprenticeship program, work process and related instruction hours may be applied towards an associate degree.”

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the intent of this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

DOUBLAS S. CHIN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LEONARD HOSHIJO  
ACTING DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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February 5, 2018

To: The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair;  
The Honorable Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair; and  
Members of the House Committee on Higher Education

Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018  
Time: 2:10 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 309, State Capitol

From: Leonard Hoshijo, Acting Director  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

**Re: H.B. No. 1638 HD1 Relating to Apprenticeships**

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB1638 HD1. HB1638 HD1 proposes to appropriate funds to continue and expand health care apprenticeship programs at UH community colleges. DLIR while supporting the intent of the measure, does not support this measure as amended from the original house draft.

DLIR recommends the language in lines 10 and 11 of page 1 of HB 1638 HD 1 be changed back to the original language – “Furthermore, upon completion of an approved apprenticeship program, work process and related instruction hours may be applied toward an associate degree.” in HB1638. DLIR is in concurrence with the University of Hawaii System on the reversion back to the original language. The Department agrees with the other changes made in HD1.

Tuesday, February 6, 2018; 2:10 pm  
Conference Room 309

**House Committee on Higher Education**

To: Representative Angus McKelvey, Chair  
Representative Mark Hashem, Vice Chair

From: Liana Peiler, MD, MHCDS  
Director of Quality and Clinical Project Management – Hawai'i Health Partners

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB1638, Relating to Apprenticeships**

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My name is Liana Peiler, MD, MHCDS, and I am the Director of Quality and Clinical Project Management for Hawai'i Health Partners. Hawai'i Health Partners is a physician-led Accountable Care Organization (ACO) with the goal of providing high-quality care, increased efficiency, and optimal patient health.

I write in support of HB1638 which provides funding to continue and expand health care apprenticeship programs at the University of Hawai'i community colleges.

With the increasing shortage of Medical Assistants (M.A.s), we have had to explore alternative staffing strategies to meet the operational needs of our clinics and hospitals. Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH) and Kapi'olani Community College (KCC) are currently partnered in the coordination of apprenticeships for Community Health Workers. These individuals work as "Care Coordinators" through Hawai'i Health Partners (HHP) to visit our patients in their home setting and to provide assistance with medication, treatment compliance, and other essential primary health care services.

While the Apprenticeship Program trains workers to provide primary health care services, it also equips them with skills required to play important leadership roles in our health care systems, which previously required formal M.A. training. For example, one such apprentice is currently working in HPH Human Resources and upon graduation will assume the role of our New Hire Health Clearance Coordinator.

The Apprenticeship Program helps to fill our industry's need for qualified medical professionals. We are hopeful that you will consider continuing and expanding the Apprenticeship program which provides great value to our industry and health care workforce.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB1638.

**Date, Time**  
**Conference Room #**

Committee

To: Chair  
Vice Chair

From: Carl Hinson  
Director, Workforce Development

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB1638, Relating to Apprenticeships**

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My name is Carl Hinson, Director of Workforce Development at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawai'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawai'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety.

I write in support of HB1638 which provides funding to continue and expand health care apprenticeship programs at the University of Hawai'i community colleges.

With the increasing shortage of Medical Assistants (M.A.s), we have had to explore alternative staffing strategies to meet the operational needs of our clinics and hospitals. Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH) and Kapi'olani Community College (KCC) are currently partnered in the coordination of apprenticeships for Community Health Workers. These individuals work as "Care Coordinators" through Hawai'i Health Partners (HHP) to visit our patients in their home setting and to provide assistance with medication, treatment compliance, and other essential primary health care services.

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The Apprenticeship Program helps to fill our industry's need for qualified medical professionals. We are hopeful that you will consider continuing and expanding the Apprenticeship program which provides great value to our industry and health care workforce.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of HB1638.

**HB-1638-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 12:32:28 PM

Testimony for HED on 2/6/2018 2:10:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments: