



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
March 20, 2018 at 2:10 p.m.

By
Donald O. Straney
Vice President of Academic Planning and
Policy University of Hawai'i System

HR 45 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO TO OFFER ADDITIONAL ONLINE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

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

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of HR 45, urging additional online degree and certificate programs at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. A number of steps toward this objective have already been taken.

On March 8, 2018, the UH System reported on a *Distance Learning Plan* to the UH Board of Regents. Analysis of UH course-taking trends has found that in the ten years between 2007 and 2017, the percent of classified undergraduate students attempting at least one line course at both the Mānoa and Hilo campuses has continued to increase.

In order to leverage this trend to support greater degree completion, the UH system is rethinking its approach by focusing on degree pathways and mechanisms for student support. This focus includes degree completion specifically for the distant student, building a 2 + 2 degree (that is, first two years at a community college then transfer to a 4-year campus). The enhanced student support uses technology appropriate for distance students from application to graduation, including student services and STAR GPS pathways from the 2 to the 4 year programs. Nationally, successful programs have shown similar characteristics that work for online student completion.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

HR-45

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Testimony for HED on 3/20/2018 2:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: