



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Higher Education
February 9, 2017 at 1:15 p.m.

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

SB 1294 – RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

Chairs Shimabukuro and Kahele, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Kidani, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1294. This testimony represents collaborative leadership that includes Chancellor Maenette Benham, University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu; Chancellor Don Straney, University of Hawai'i at Hilo; and Dean Jerris Hedges, John A. Burns School of Medicine.

This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, including the John A. Burns School of Medicine and the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu Allied Health Program, to increase the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and first generation college students.

The University of Hawai'i supports this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians have lower educational attainment and income, and are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population.

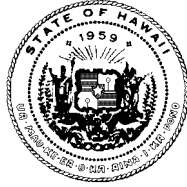
Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher, considerably lower than other ethnic groups.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

The University of Hawai'i supports passage of SB 1294 on the condition that any requested funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Biennium budget request.

Thank you for your consideration, and the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



PANKAJ BHANOT
DIRECTOR

BRIDGET HOLTHUS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 9, 2017

TO: The Honorable Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

The Honorable Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 1294 - RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Hearing: February 9, 2017, 1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 414, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of the bill to the extent it does not conflict with priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request, and offers comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of SB 1294 is to establish an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawaii to increase recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and first generation college students; and makes an appropriation.

DHS participated in the work of the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force created by Senate Resolution 60 Senate Draft 1, Regular Session of 2014, and supports the Task Force's efforts to advance health care equity for Native Hawaiians and all people of Hawaii. As a department, DHS provides benefits and services to 1 in 4 residents in Hawaii; this includes providing Medicaid coverage to more than 350,000 Hawaii residents. DHS strives to encourage self-sufficiency and supports the well-being of individuals, families, and communities in Hawaii through its major benefit programs that provide financial assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), medical insurance coverage (through

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

Med-QUEST), vocational rehabilitation services, and protective services for vulnerable children and adults.

There is considerable evidence that education is strongly linked to better health and well-being, while reducing the need for health care, dependency, lost earnings and human suffering. More years of education also promotes healthy lifestyles, personal, family and community well-being.

Increasing the number of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders holding bachelor's degrees, supporting further access to careers in health services through the establishment of a health sciences academy will underpin the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians, and the residents and communities in which they serve.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

February 9, 2017

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294:
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committee on Higher Education
Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria and members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Unbeknownst to most, the shortage of Allied Health Workers in Hawaii and in the nation is greater than the shortage of physicians and nurses. Allied Health constitutes 60% of the healthcare workforce (6 million out of 11 million workers). With over 85 different occupations, they include aides, assistants, technicians, technologists and therapists. They work in outpatient clinics, hospitals, health centers, care homes, laboratories, radiology units, surgical suites, ER's and health departments. Job titles include medical assistant, dental hygienist, respiratory therapist, ultrasound technician, comm., health worker, home health aide or occupational therapist. Allied Health has 19 out of the 30 fastest growing jobs in the US 2014 to 2024 (US BLS).

Given this need, Hawaii truly has an opportunity to become a leader and innovator in the field of Allied Health. UH West Oahu is the perfect incubator. Our students come from the communities of Kapolei, Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Waianae, Nanakuli, Wailua and Wahiawa. Most are Native Hawaiian and Filipino. They are underrepresented in all health care career fields. They also are underestimated by most. They have shown us their creativity, professionalism and capability. Their life's experiences have made them more compassionate and more ambitious.

These students need a program that will give them purpose. They need careers that will allow them to serve their communities as well as allow them to make a living. Hawaii needs a pipeline of undergraduate trained allied health workers. Although Allied Health programs are offered at the associate degree level within the UH system, a number of professions, e.g. Physical, Occupational and Respiratory Therapy require, or are moving to advanced degrees for entry level practice. Presently, Hawaii does not offer a bachelor's level degree in Allied Health.

Specific stakeholders include the communities of:

- 1) Waianae & Nanakuli - Highest concentration of Native Hawaiians in the world who disproportionately suffer from obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.
- 2) Kapolei - Growth of a huge "Second City" with increased housing, young families, crowding and no parallel increase in infrastructure.
- 3) Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Wailua & Wahiawa - Old plantation towns with a growing number of elderly.

Please support SB 1294. The future health and wellness of Hawaii's people depends on the success of this endeavor. The final evaluation of success will be in the quality and number of our graduates serving our communities. Attached is the most updated brief on the UH West Oahu Allied Health Program. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

UH West Oahu Allied Health Faculty

Dr. Kristina Guo, Public Administration; Division Chair

Dr. Ricardo C. Custodio, Associate Professor of Allied Health

Dr. Camonia Graham-Tutt, Assistant Professor of Community Health

Dr. Robert Vega, Director Respiratory Care Program

Dr. Susan Young, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration

UH WEST OAHU ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAM

Executive Summary: Increasingly, attention and resources have been given to the physician shortage. Unknown to most, there is an even greater Allied Health Professional shortage. The best solution is to increase training. The University of Hawaii–West Oahu is well positioned to build an Allied Health program that is community, service and team based.

Allied Health Defined: Allied Health constitutes 60% of the healthcare workforce (6 million out of 11 million workers). With over 85 different occupations, they include aides, assistants, technicians, technologists and therapists. They work in outpatient clinics, hospitals, health centers, care homes, laboratories, radiology units, surgical suites, ER's and health departments. Job titles include medical assistant, dental hygienist, respiratory therapist, ultrasound technician, community health worker, home health aide or occupational therapist. Allied Health has 19 out of the 30 fastest growing jobs in the US 2014 to 2024 (US BLS).

Allied Health Analysis:

As *Stakeholders*, healthcare workers and patients need to prepare for three significant trends:

- 1) An increase in the number of elderly
- 2) A decrease in the number of healthcare workers due to retirement
- 3) Only a small increase in the number of healthcare training programs

Specific Stakeholders include the communities within the mokus of Ewa, Waianae and Wailua:

- 1) Waianae & Nanakuli - Highest concentration of Native Hawaiians in the world who disproportionately suffer from obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.
- 2) Kapolei - Growth of a huge “Second City” with increased housing, young families, crowding and no parallel increase in infrastructure.
- 3) Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Wailua & Wahiawa - Old plantation towns with a growing number of elderly.

UH West Oahu is an *Educational Resource*. With almost 3000 enrollees, it is a 4-year student-centered, indigenous serving institution that is both affordable and accessible. Tuition at UHWO is \$7K/yr (UH Manoa = \$11K/yr, Chaminade & HPU = \$21K/yr). 28% of students report their ethnicity as Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 21% as Filipino. In terms of *Financial Resources*, the federal government has invested very little towards Allied Health Training. This needs to change.

Recommendation: *An unrecognized potential in the community is our underrepresented youth. They comprise a viable healthcare workforce pipeline. By aligning collective ideas, solutions and resources, "Growing our own, from our community, for our community," can be achieved. Allied Health training needs to be community, service and team based. The optimum site for this training is the UH West Oahu.*

Conclusion: Adding highly skilled Allied Health Professionals to healthcare teams in Hawaii will lead to increased access, better quality and lower costs. For UH West Oahu, the transformative changes needed to achieve this goal require;

1. Starting a BA Degree in Allied Health with the goals of excellence, innovation and service.
2. Constructing a new Allied Health Building to provide classrooms and laboratories for learning.
3. Forging and developing community, educational and government collaborative partnerships to integrate and advance learned knowledge and clinical practice.

The future health and wellness of Hawaii’s people depends on the success of this endeavor.

Contact = Ricardo C. Custodio, MD, MPH; ricardo8@hawaii.edu / 808-799-8634

2/1/17

UH West Oahu Allied Health Program Tenets: Training Must -

1. Be Based in the Community
2. Integrate Learning with Doing
3. Produce Interprofessional Teams

Inaugural Allied Health Program Concentrations:

- *Community Health*
- *Respiratory Care*
- *Pre-Professional*
- *Long Term Care*
- *Health Information Management*

Present Healthcare Gaps & Future Knowledge & Skills Needed:

- Patient Centered Medical Home needs = Durable Medical Equipment / Skilled Nursing Competence
 - Hospital Discharge to Home Transition = Patient & Family Education / Discharge Care Coordination / Caregiver Support / Mobile Health Home Monitoring
 - Long Term Care Homes = Frail Elderly / Access and Quality of Care Inequities/ mHealth Monitoring
 - Patient Care Coordination = Specialist Referral/Prior Authorization/Behavioral Health/Wound Care
- Integrated Knowledge & Skills Required in the Future = Nursing, Social Work, Care Coordination, Counseling, Referrals, mHealth, Patient Navigation, Coding, Comm. Health Worker, Pharmacology*

Partnerships:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AlohaCare • Hawaii Department of Health • Hawaii MedQUEST • Kalihi-Palama Health Center • Kapiolani Community College • Kulana Malama • Leeward Community College • Queen’s West Oahu • Queen’s Health Systems • University of Hawaii Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UH Hilo School of Nursing • UH John A. Burns School of Medicine • UH at Manoa School of Nursing • UHWO Creative Media • UHWO Music Department • UHWO Pre-Nursing Program • UHWO Public Administration Program • UHWO Sustainable Food Systems Prog • Waianae Coast Comp Health Center
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Timeline:

- Fall 2016 - Groundbreaking of new Allied Health Building. Implement Respiratory Care
- Spring 2017 to Spring 2018: Design and implement Community Health & PreProfessions
- Fall 2017 to Spring 2019: Hire Design & Implement Long Term Care and HIM Concentrations.
- Spring 2019 to Fall 2019: Allied Health Building Completed. BA Allied Health is offered
- Spring 2020: First Allied Health Graduates. Groundbreaking Clinical Training Center
- Fall 2021: Hire / Design / Transfer / Implement Future Concentrations (see below)

- School Health Specialist	- Nursing	- Speech Therapy
- Dental Hygiene	- Occupational Therapy	- Counseling
- Medical Technology	- Physical Therapy	- Minority Health Policy

Summary: "You can give a person a fish and feed him for a day. You can teach a person how to fish. But true empowerment is access to the stream." - *Theda New Breast (Blackfeet)*. For UH West Oahu Allied Health students, true empowerment is access to higher education and gainful employment. The final evaluation will be in the quality and number of our graduates serving our communities.

Native Hawaiian Health Task Force

Co-chairs:

Keawe'aimoku
Kaholokula
Kamana'opono Crabbe
Virginia Pressler

Members:

Lola Irvin
Lorin Kim
Noa Emmett Aluli
Puni Kekauoha
Kamaki Kanahale
Nalani Benioni
Keola Chan
Diane Paloma
Dane Keohelani Silva
Nalei Akina
Sharlene Chun-Lum
Claire Hughes
Joelene Lono
Michelle Hiraishi
Kamahanahokulani
Farrar
Sheri Ann Daniels
Kuhio Asam
Mary Oneha
Sean Chun
Joey Gonsalves
Shawn Kana'iaupuni
Neil Hannahs
Keopu Reelitz
Malia Taum-Deenik
Mervina Cash-Kaeo
Maenette Benham
Mahina Paishon-Duarte

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES
ACADEMY

By

The Native Hawaiian Health Task Force convened pursuant to S.R. No. S.D. 1,
regular session of 2014

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force, we wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

The Native Hawaiian Health Task Force was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.

- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.
- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Task Force by

Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula, PhD
Native Hawaiian Health Task Force , Co-Chair

COMMITTEE ON HIRE EDUCATION
SENATOR KAI'ALII KAHELE, CHAIR
SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
SENATOR MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, CHAIR
SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA, VICE CHAIR

Bill Brown, President
Pana'ewa Hawaiian Home Lands Community Association (PHHLCA)
PO BOX 4788, Hilo, HI 96720

Thursday, February 9, 2017
1:15pm, Conference Rm 224

RE: COMMENTS ONLY ON SB 1294

Aloha Kakou,

It is our honor to comment our concerns on SB 1294 to both Senator Kahele and Senator Shimabukuro legislative committees; we are a native Hawaiian community in the District 1 region of this State with a historical value in growth for native Hawaiians in the Pana'ewa region furthermore as we are recognized by an Act of 1920 to be controlled by DHHL, we native Hawaiians have been noted to be disadvantage in education, 40% of native Hawaiians are housed in the prison industries of this state, and on the Health issue, native Hawaiians bear a disproportionately higher prevalence of many chronic medical conditions, such as obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, collectively known as cardiometabolic disorders. Whether these prevalent conditions are an onset by social dynamics, or a transformation on political outcomes for native Hawaiians, and/or lack the educational outreach within the native Hawaiian communities, we hope to provide a commentary to the rule of Legislative on SB 1294

SB 1294 seek to fund Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and first generation college students for an educational opportunity starting from high school teenagers and college bound students, this measure goes further to explain the validity of this asked funding and i quote, "The goal of the task force is to articulate priorities to advance health care equity for Native Hawaiians (not native Hawaiians on the Homestead) which would in turn improve health care for all people of Hawaii (page 2; line 16, 17, and 18)." Now this caught my attention because of the none committal towards native Hawaiian specifically and may i use the metaphor of the washing machine effect with the homogenization of a melting pot parable on the backs of native Hawaiians additionally this narrative seemed to profit off of our conditions in the name of equality and of course equity for the community-at-large.

Our native Hawaiian communities has for the longest been neglected by this state that includes legislation duties, case in point the LACK of funding for DHHL as ascribed by the Admission Act of 59' throughout this state's existence by surviving on its general lease fees additionally if any paltry efforts were made it was through created agencies the likes of Alu Like (diminished), Na Pua Noeau (diminished), QLCC downsized, Liko ae Scholarship program (no longer in existence) and the infamous fiery OHA who is indeed a duplication of the HHCA and receives insurmountable funding from this legislation despite inadequately servicing the Homesteaders directly because of its continual in-house fighting and a mission statement of debasement.....very distressing.

Our native Hawaiian communities definitely need attention that has been specify in this measure like an intrinsic community homestead programs to better OUR communities from our opio toward goals by this measure, the consideration of transcending programs to the native Hawaiian Communities through its nonprofits, and the opportunities to improve a better community for the all the people of Hawaii. PHHLCA wan to mahalo you for this opportunity for a written comment with this committee.

Bill Brown
PHHLCA



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committees on Higher Education and Hawaiian Affairs

Time: 1:15 p.m.

Date: February 9, 2017

Where: Conference Room 414

TESTIMONY

By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice Chairs Kidani and Galuteria, and Members of the Committees

RE: **SB 1294 Relating to Native Hawaiian Higher Education.**

E nā Luna Ho'omalua Kahele a me Shimabukuro, nā Hope Luna Ho'omalua Kidani a me Galuteria, a me nā Lālā Kenekoa o kēia mau Kōmike, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Group of Kamehameha Schools.

We are writing to **support SB 1294**, relating to Native Hawaiian Higher Education and offer the following comments:

This measure establishes an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i to increase recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and first generation college students and makes an appropriation. We believe that this is an important step toward increasing the number and quality of higher education paths available to Native Hawaiian students. Please support this measure.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an organization striving to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership. 'A'ohē hana nui ke alu 'ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:39 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	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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COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 414
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Robin Miyamoto, a Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Professor with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Departments of Native Hawaiian Health and Family Medicine and Community Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
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students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Robin E. S. Miyamoto, Psy.D.

Assistant Professor
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa
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robinemi@hawaii.edu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:49 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kaukamau@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Marjorie Mau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Native Hawaiian educator I strongly support the overall purpose and intent of this bill. It is fundamental to our goal of ensuring a strong and mindful nation of indigenous leaders. Please support this bill and provide the proper funding to make it a reality.

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

February 9, 2017

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB1294:
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committee on Higher Education
Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria and members of the Committee on Hawaiian
Affairs

I have provided health care to the poor and underserved in this wonderful state of Hawaii for over 35 years. I have practiced pediatrics in Kalihi, Hilo, Puna, Kau, Waianae, Waipahu, Nanakuli and Kapolei. And, I have been a Medical Director at 3 community health centers (Kalihi-Palama, Bay Clinic and Waianae Coast Comprehensive). I know and have experienced the physician shortage first hand. This is the reason I helped start the A.T. Stills School of Osteopathic Medicine in Waianae, the Nurse Practitioner Residency Program at Kalihi-Palama and the Kulia Mentorship Program.

A true epiphany occurred when I accepted the position of Associate Professor of Allied Health at UH West Oahu. When initially offered the position, I had to google "Allied Health" to learn what it entailed. To my surprise I found that the health care worker shortage in Allied Health is greater than the shortage for physicians and nurses. Allied health has 19 of the top 30 fastest growing occupations (2014 to 2024, Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Hawaii truly has an opportunity to become a leader and innovator in the field of Allied Health. UH West Oahu is the perfect incubator. My students come from Kapolei, Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Waianae, Nanakuli, Wailua and Wahiawa. Most are Native Hawaiian and Filipino. They are the underrepresented in all health care career fields. They also are underestimated by most. I have been surprised by their creativity, professionalism and capability. Their life's experiences have made them more compassionate and more ambitious.

These students need a program that will give them purpose. They need careers that will allow them to serve their communities as well as give them a means of making a living. Hawaii needs a pipeline of undergraduate trained allied health workers because there are no Allied Health bachelor's level degrees offered in Hawaii.

Please support HB 1542. The future health and wellness of Hawaii's people depends on the success of this endeavor. The final evaluation of success will be in the quality and number of our graduates serving our communities. Attached is a brief on the Allied Health Program. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ricardo C. Custodio, MD, MPH
rcustodio1@hawaii.rr.com / 808-799-8634

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 8:09 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Aloha e Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee,

I am Winona Lee, a pediatrician and Assistant Professor in the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine. This testimony is in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which presented the establishment of an undergraduate health sciences academy as one of its key recommendations.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Current data suggests that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college compared to other ethnic groups in part due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population.
- The development of a Health Sciences Academy would increase access to higher education for these students who have faced challenges, providing them stronger academic, professional, and personal support networks that will potentially contribute to their future success in higher education.
- As a Native Hawaiian/Filipino, first generation college student, I found the navigation through college courses difficult but possible with the help of family, mentors, and support networks. I would not have become a pediatrician and mentor for other students were it not for the help that was provided to me early in my academic career.

Me ka ha'a ha'a,



Winona K. Lee, MD

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 3:46 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Regina Cummings, MBA, an administrator of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. However, I submit this testimony as a private citizen and as a Native Hawaiian woman and mother, alumni of the University of Hawai'i West Oahu and alumni of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am in strong support of SB 1294 1542.

This bill will develop a much needed undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

I have personally experienced the difficulty of trying to navigate an undergraduate and graduate educational journey without a structured pathway. Graduating from high school in 2002, it took me 12 years, 6 different institutions, and over \$40,000 in student loans to obtain my Bachelor's Degree from UH West Oahu and finally my Master's Degree from UH Mānoa.

My mother, a single parent from Waimānalo did everything she could to provide for me and my brother and sisters. She would tell you I was a highly driven self-motivated person who completed everything I put my mind to. I am a first generation college graduate and attended college consistently from 2002-2016 while raising 4 children and working full time (non-traditional student). Since receiving my Bachelor's degree in 2014 and my Master's degree in 2016 I was able to reflect back on my educational journey. Although I do not regret my journey, I do believe there could have been an easier way. My tenacity and determination was what got me through...but the truth is, not all students would have been able to stick it out that long. As I look toward the future and try to map out the educational journey of my children and my nieces and nephews, I have no other choice but to back a measure like HB 1542 in hopes that the next generation will be given the necessary tools and support they need to succeed without trying to navigate the system blindly, or by trial and error like I did. This measure gives me hope that Native Hawaiians like me will be encouraged and empowered to know that they can succeed and become a part of Hawai'i's

health workforce. This measure will ensure a safe and supportive environment for Native Hawaiian and Pacific islander students to thrive in.

I support SB 1294 for the following reasons:

- A structured pathway that targets Native Hawaiians into Health careers will lift the unnecessary burdens Native Hawaiian students experience when trying to navigate the college system.
- A pathway will provide the necessary support students need to succeed. A structured pathway of courses that will guide them from point A to point B without confusion and unnecessary burdens associated with trying to figure out your next move.
- College is expensive, a structured pathway will assist students in making sure they are taking the right courses and making the most of their tuition dollars. Taking unnecessary courses takes away valuable time from family or even work opportunities that allow students to financially support themselves and their families. Today there are more and more non-traditional students enrolled in colleges, a structured pathway will make sure that parents and working adults are making the most of their time.
- Supporting Native Hawaiian students through their educational journey with the necessary mentors they need to guide them will keep the student engaged, informed and empowered.
- We all know the health care system is constantly changing and will require diverse and highly trained health professionals to meet the health care demands of our state. Why not target Native Hawaiian students into health care careers, allowing consumers the opportunity to receive health services from professionals they can relate to. Health professionals that look like them, that understand their needs and are aware of the cultural and social effects of their daily lifestyles.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Regina Cummings, MBA
Waimānalo, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 1:35 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: fu_dog_5@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Rebecca Delafield, a staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rebecca Delafield, MPH, Dr.PH(c)

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Chessa Harris, MBA, a Native Hawaiian, and a faculty member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chessa Harris, MBA

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I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chessa Harris, MBA

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chessa Harris, MBA

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AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Mikako Deguchi, an Assistant Specialist, and a staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

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I support this bill for numerous reasons:

“Education is a fundamental human right and essential for the exercise of all other human rights. It promotes individual freedom and empowerment and yields important development benefits.” (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) We all should have an equal opportunity to achieve our own highest potential in an environment that nurtures the individual and the community.

Statistics and reports on educational outcome by ethnicity/race show that the current educational environment is not maximizing the individual's and community's potential for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. To equally maximize the potentials, we need to create an environment that provides culturally- appropriate teaching methods and mentors/instructors/teachers who can connect well with Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities and students.

It is alarming that racial/ethnic gap in education, health, and income persistently exist in our society. To promote equity in education, health, and income among Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and ALL, I strongly support this bill.

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mikako Deguchi, DDS, MBA

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

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Aloha mai, Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, and members of the committees I am Mele Look, a resident of Waimanalo, O'ahu, a health researcher for the past 35 years, and presently the Director of Community Engagement the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health.

I speak today as an individual and am submitting testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. I support this bill for numerous reasons including:

- Health Science is a growing career area in Hawai'i, across the nation and across the world. A Health Science Academy would promote the economic opportunity for individuals and the state. Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i.
- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Malama pono,
Mele Look (41028 Manana Street, Waimanalo HI 96795)

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Claire Townsend Ing, a multiethnic African American, and a faculty member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

African Americans can access Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) that are geared toward their needs as a group. Research has shown that, compared to African Americans who graduated from other schools, those with degrees from HBCUs report a greater sense of purpose and community and better social, physical, and financial well-being. The University of Hawai'i is where Native Hawaiians turn for a similar experience. I ask you to help them succeed by voting for the establishment of a health sciences academy for Native Hawaiians.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Claire Townsend Ing, DrPH
Assistant Professor
Dept of Native Hawaiian Health

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Dr. Kau'i Baumhofer, an epidemiologist, and a staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "N. Kau'i Baumhofer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

N. Kau'i Baumhofer, ScD, MPH, MA
Assistant Professor
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 1:25 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: shane.nelsen@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Nelsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 11:31 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: micahalameda@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Alameda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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To: HWNTestimony
Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/1/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, my name is Shelley Soong, and am a student and staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Within the labor force, Native Hawaiians have a lower rate of college degrees and are less likely to be employed in high paying management and professional occupations.
 - **Only 6.2% of individuals in areas with high proportions of Native Hawaiians (i.e., Nanakuli) hold a bachelor's degree compared to 21.6% of individuals in the overall Honolulu County area.**
- Graduate school attendance, after completing an undergraduate degree, is considered an important outcome for increasing the nation's professionals in health science careers. As access to graduate education is limited to those who excel at the undergraduate level, increasing the number of Native Hawaiian students that successfully complete and excel in undergraduate science degrees is critical at a national level.
 - **Only 1.9% of individuals in areas with high proportions of Native Hawaiians (i.e., Nanakuli) hold a graduate or professional degree compared to 11.1% of individuals in the overall Honolulu County area.**
- Data also suggests low graduation rates in science fields among Native Hawaiians, and attrition from the sciences is associated with an overall shortage of professionals in the science and health fields.

- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances.
 - For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum.
- Ultimately, a strong network of highly trained Native Hawaiian health professionals is needed to work in health care, conduct health disparities research and eliminate the racial and ethnic disparities that exist in health care.
- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Shelley Soong

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 10:39 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 414
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Robin Miyamoto, a Clinical Psychologist and Assistant Professor with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Departments of Native Hawaiian Health and Family Medicine and Community Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian

students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Robin E. S. Miyamoto, Psy.D.

Assistant Professor
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
Department of Family Medicine and Community Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa
677 Ala Moana Blvd. 1016
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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:49 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kaukamau@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/7/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Marjorie Mau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a Native Hawaiian educator I strongly support the overall purpose and intent of this bill. It is fundamental to our goal of ensuring a strong and mindful nation of indigenous leaders. Please support this bill and provide the proper funding to make it a reality.

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February 9, 2017

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB1294:
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committee on Higher Education
Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria and members of the Committee on Hawaiian
Affairs

I have provided health care to the poor and underserved in this wonderful state of Hawaii for over 35 years. I have practiced pediatrics in Kalihi, Hilo, Puna, Kau, Waianae, Waipahu, Nanakuli and Kapolei. And, I have been a Medical Director at 3 community health centers (Kalihi-Palama, Bay Clinic and Waianae Coast Comprehensive). I know and have experienced the physician shortage first hand. This is the reason I helped start the A.T. Stills School of Osteopathic Medicine in Waianae, the Nurse Practitioner Residency Program at Kalihi-Palama and the Kulia Mentorship Program.

A true epiphany occurred when I accepted the position of Associate Professor of Allied Health at UH West Oahu. When initially offered the position, I had to google "Allied Health" to learn what it entailed. To my surprise I found that the health care worker shortage in Allied Health is greater than the shortage for physicians and nurses. Allied health has 19 of the top 30 fastest growing occupations (2014 to 2024, Bureau of Labor Statistics).

Hawaii truly has an opportunity to become a leader and innovator in the field of Allied Health. UH West Oahu is the perfect incubator. My students come from Kapolei, Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Waianae, Nanakuli, Wailua and Wahiawa. Most are Native Hawaiian and Filipino. They are the underrepresented in all health care career fields. They also are underestimated by most. I have been surprised by their creativity, professionalism and capability. Their life's experiences have made them more compassionate and more ambitious.

These students need a program that will give them purpose. They need careers that will allow them to serve their communities as well as give them a means of making a living. Hawaii needs a pipeline of undergraduate trained allied health workers because there are no Allied Health bachelor's level degrees offered in Hawaii.

Please support HB 1542. The future health and wellness of Hawaii's people depends on the success of this endeavor. The final evaluation of success will be in the quality and number of our graduates serving our communities. Attached is a brief on the Allied Health Program. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ricardo C. Custodio, MD, MPH
rcustodio1@hawaii.rr.com / 808-799-8634

February 9, 2017

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294:
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION**

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the Committee on Higher Education
Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria and members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Unbeknownst to most, the shortage of Allied Health Workers in Hawaii and in the nation is greater than the shortage of physicians and nurses. Allied Health constitutes 60% of the healthcare workforce (6 million out of 11 million workers). With over 85 different occupations, they include aides, assistants, technicians, technologists and therapists. They work in outpatient clinics, hospitals, health centers, care homes, laboratories, radiology units, surgical suites, ER's and health departments. Job titles include medical assistant, dental hygienist, respiratory therapist, ultrasound technician, comm., health worker, home health aide or occupational therapist. Allied Health has 19 out of the 30 fastest growing jobs in the US 2014 to 2024 (US BLS).

Given this need, Hawaii truly has an opportunity to become a leader and innovator in the field of Allied Health. UH West Oahu is the perfect incubator. Our students come from the communities of Kapolei, Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Waianae, Nanakuli, Wailua and Wahiawa. Most are Native Hawaiian and Filipino. They are underrepresented in all health care career fields. They also are underestimated by most. They have shown us their creativity, professionalism and capability. Their life's experiences have made them more compassionate and more ambitious.

These students need a program that will give them purpose. They need careers that will allow them to serve their communities as well as allow them to make a living. Hawaii needs a pipeline of undergraduate trained allied health workers. Although Allied Health programs are offered at the associate degree level within the UH system, a number of professions, e.g. Physical, Occupational and Respiratory Therapy require, or are moving to advanced degrees for entry level practice. Presently, Hawaii does not offer a bachelor's level degree in Allied Health.

Specific stakeholders include the communities of:

- 1) Waianae & Nanakuli - Highest concentration of Native Hawaiians in the world who disproportionately suffer from obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.
- 2) Kapolei - Growth of a huge "Second City" with increased housing, young families, crowding and no parallel increase in infrastructure.
- 3) Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Wailua & Wahiawa - Old plantation towns with a growing number of elderly.

Please support SB 1294. The future health and wellness of Hawaii's people depends on the success of this endeavor. The final evaluation of success will be in the quality and number of our graduates serving our communities. Attached is the most updated brief on the UH West Oahu Allied Health Program. If you have questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

UH West Oahu Allied Health Faculty

Dr. Kristina Guo, Public Administration; Division Chair

Dr. Ricardo C. Custodio, Associate Professor of Allied Health

Dr. Camonia Graham-Tutt, Assistant Professor of Community Health

Dr. Robert Vega, Director Respiratory Care Program

Dr. Susan Young, Assistant Professor of Health Care Administration

UH WEST OAHU ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAM

Executive Summary: Increasingly, attention and resources have been given to the physician shortage. Unknown to most, there is an even greater Allied Health Professional shortage. The best solution is to increase training. The University of Hawaii–West Oahu is well positioned to build an Allied Health program that is community, service and team based.

Allied Health Defined: Allied Health constitutes 60% of the healthcare workforce (6 million out of 11 million workers). With over 85 different occupations, they include aides, assistants, technicians, technologists and therapists. They work in outpatient clinics, hospitals, health centers, care homes, laboratories, radiology units, surgical suites, ER's and health departments. Job titles include medical assistant, dental hygienist, respiratory therapist, ultrasound technician, community health worker, home health aide or occupational therapist. Allied Health has 19 out of the 30 fastest growing jobs in the US 2014 to 2024 (US BLS).

Allied Health Analysis:

As *Stakeholders*, healthcare workers and patients need to prepare for three significant trends:

- 1) An increase in the number of elderly
- 2) A decrease in the number of healthcare workers due to retirement
- 3) Only a small increase in the number of healthcare training programs

Specific Stakeholders include the communities within the mokus of Ewa, Waianae and Wailua:

- 1) Waianae & Nanakuli - Highest concentration of Native Hawaiians in the world who disproportionately suffer from obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.
- 2) Kapolei - Growth of a huge "Second City" with increased housing, young families, crowding and no parallel increase in infrastructure.
- 3) Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Wailua & Wahiawa - Old plantation towns with a growing number of elderly.

UH West Oahu is an *Educational Resource*. With almost 3000 enrollees, it is a 4-year student-centered, indigenous serving institution that is both affordable and accessible. Tuition at UHWO is \$7K/yr (UH Manoa = \$11K/yr, Chaminade & HPU = \$21K/yr). 28% of students report their ethnicity as Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and 21% as Filipino. In terms of *Financial Resources*, the federal government has invested very little towards Allied Health Training. This needs to change.

Recommendation: *An unrecognized potential in the community is our underrepresented youth. They comprise a viable healthcare workforce pipeline. By aligning collective ideas, solutions and resources, "Growing our own, from our community, for our community," can be achieved. Allied Health training needs to be community, service and team based. The optimum site for this training is the UH West Oahu.*

Conclusion: Adding highly skilled Allied Health Professionals to healthcare teams in Hawaii will lead to increased access, better quality and lower costs. For UH West Oahu, the transformative changes needed to achieve this goal require;

1. Starting a BA Degree in Allied Health with the goals of excellence, innovation and service.
2. Constructing a new Allied Health Building to provide classrooms and laboratories for learning.
3. Forging and developing community, educational and government collaborative partnerships to integrate and advance learned knowledge and clinical practice.

The future health and wellness of Hawaii's people depends on the success of this endeavor.

Contact = Ricardo C. Custodio, MD, MPH; ricardo8@hawaii.edu / 808-799-8634

2/1/17

UH West Oahu Allied Health Program Tenets: Training Must -

1. Be Based in the Community
2. Integrate Learning with Doing
3. Produce Interprofessional Teams

Inaugural Allied Health Program Concentrations:

- *Community Health*
- *Respiratory Care*
- *Pre-Professional*
- *Long Term Care*
- *Health Information Management*

Present Healthcare Gaps & Future Knowledge & Skills Needed:

- Patient Centered Medical Home needs = Durable Medical Equipment / Skilled Nursing Competence
 - Hospital Discharge to Home Transition = Patient & Family Education / Discharge Care Coordination / Caregiver Support / Mobile Health Home Monitoring
 - Long Term Care Homes = Frail Elderly / Access and Quality of Care Inequities/ mHealth Monitoring
 - Patient Care Coordination = Specialist Referral/Prior Authorization/Behavioral Health/Wound Care
- Integrated Knowledge & Skills Required in the Future = Nursing, Social Work, Care Coordination, Counseling, Referrals, mHealth, Patient Navigation, Coding, Comm. Health Worker, Pharmacology*

Partnerships:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AlohaCare • Hawaii Department of Health • Hawaii MedQUEST • Kalihi-Palama Health Center • Kapiolani Community College • Kulana Malama • Leeward Community College • Queen’s West Oahu • Queen’s Health Systems • University of Hawaii Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UH Hilo School of Nursing • UH John A. Burns School of Medicine • UH at Manoa School of Nursing • UHWO Creative Media • UHWO Music Department • UHWO Pre-Nursing Program • UHWO Public Administration Program • UHWO Sustainable Food Systems Prog • Waianae Coast Comp Health Center
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Timeline:

- Fall 2016 - Groundbreaking of new Allied Health Building. Implement Respiratory Care
- Spring 2017 to Spring 2018: Design and implement Community Health & PreProfessions
- Fall 2017 to Spring 2019: Hire Design & Implement Long Term Care and HIM Concentrations.
- Spring 2019 to Fall 2019: Allied Health Building Completed. BA Allied Health is offered
- Spring 2020: First Allied Health Graduates. Groundbreaking Clinical Training Center
- Fall 2021: Hire / Design / Transfer / Implement Future Concentrations (see below)

- School Health Specialist	- Nursing	- Speech Therapy
- Dental Hygiene	- Occupational Therapy	- Counseling
- Medical Technology	- Physical Therapy	- Minority Health Policy

Summary: "You can give a person a fish and feed him for a day. You can teach a person how to fish. But true empowerment is access to the stream." - *Theda New Breast (Blackfeet)*. For UH West Oahu Allied Health students, true empowerment is access to higher education and gainful employment. The final evaluation will be in the quality and number of our graduates serving our communities.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Hawaiian Affairs and Higher Education
February 9, 2017 at 1:15 p.m.

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

SB 1294 – RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN HIGHER EDUCATION

Chairs Shimabukuro and Kahele, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Kidani, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 1294. This testimony represents collaborative leadership that includes Chancellor Maenette Benham, University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu; Chancellor Don Straney, University of Hawai'i at Hilo; and Dean Jerris Hedges, John A. Burns School of Medicine.

This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, including the John A. Burns School of Medicine and the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu Allied Health Program, to increase the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and first generation college students.

The University of Hawai'i supports this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians have lower educational attainment and income, and are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population.

Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher, considerably lower than other ethnic groups.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

The University of Hawai'i supports passage of SB 1294 on the condition that any requested funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Biennium budget request.

Thank you for your consideration, and the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Native Hawaiian Health Task Force

Co-chairs:

Keawe'aimoku
Kaholokula
Kamana'opono Crabbe
Virginia Pressler

Members:

Lola Irvin
Lorin Kim
Noa Emmett Aluli
Puni Kekauoha
Kamaki Kanahale
Nalani Benioni
Keola Chan
Diane Paloma
Dane Keohelani Silva
Nalei Akina
Sharlene Chun-Lum
Claire Hughes
Joelene Lono
Michelle Hiraishi
Kamahanahokulani
Farrar
Sheri Ann Daniels
Kuhio Asam
Mary Oneha
Sean Chun
Joey Gonsalves
Shawn Kana'iaupuni
Neil Hannahs
Keopu Reelitz
Malia Taum-Deenik
Mervina Cash-Kaeo
Maenette Benham
Mahina Paishon-Duarte

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NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES
ACADEMY

By

The Native Hawaiian Health Task Force convened pursuant to S.R. No. S.D. 1,
regular session of 2014

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force, we wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

The Native Hawaiian Health Task Force was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.

- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Native Hawaiian Task Force by

Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula, PhD
Native Hawaiian Health Task Force , Co-Chair

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 8:09 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: crystalkpaul@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Crystal Kia Paul	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: cchaudron08@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
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415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Aloha e Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee,

I am Winona Lee, a pediatrician and Assistant Professor in the Department of Native Hawaiian Health at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine. This testimony is in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which presented the establishment of an undergraduate health sciences academy as one of its key recommendations.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Current data suggests that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college compared to other ethnic groups in part due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population.
- The development of a Health Sciences Academy would increase access to higher education for these students who have faced challenges, providing them stronger academic, professional, and personal support networks that will potentially contribute to their future success in higher education.
- As a Native Hawaiian/Filipino, first generation college student, I found the navigation through college courses difficult but possible with the help of family, mentors, and support networks. I would not have become a pediatrician and mentor for other students were it not for the help that was provided to me early in my academic career.

Me ka ha'a ha'a,



Winona K. Lee, MD

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 3:46 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chairs Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Regina Cummings, MBA, an administrator of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. However, I submit this testimony as a private citizen and as a Native Hawaiian woman and mother, alumni of the University of Hawai'i West Oahu and alumni of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am in strong support of SB 1294 1542.

This bill will develop a much needed undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

I have personally experienced the difficulty of trying to navigate an undergraduate and graduate educational journey without a structured pathway. Graduating from high school in 2002, it took me 12 years, 6 different institutions, and over \$40,000 in student loans to obtain my Bachelor's Degree from UH West Oahu and finally my Master's Degree from UH Mānoa.

My mother, a single parent from Waimānalo did everything she could to provide for me and my brother and sisters. She would tell you I was a highly driven self-motivated person who completed everything I put my mind to. I am a first generation college graduate and attended college consistently from 2002-2016 while raising 4 children and working full time (non-traditional student). Since receiving my Bachelor's degree in 2014 and my Master's degree in 2016 I was able to reflect back on my educational journey. Although I do not regret my journey, I do believe there could have been an easier way. My tenacity and determination was what got me through...but the truth is, not all students would have been able to stick it out that long. As I look toward the future and try to map out the educational journey of my children and my nieces and nephews, I have no other choice but to back a measure like HB 1542 in hopes that the next generation will be given the necessary tools and support they need to succeed without trying to navigate the system blindly, or by trial and error like I did. This measure gives me hope that Native Hawaiians like me will be encouraged and empowered to know that they can succeed and become a part of Hawai'i's

health workforce. This measure will ensure a safe and supportive environment for Native Hawaiian and Pacific islander students to thrive in.

I support SB 1294 for the following reasons:

- A structured pathway that targets Native Hawaiians into Health careers will lift the unnecessary burdens Native Hawaiian students experience when trying to navigate the college system.
- A pathway will provide the necessary support students need to succeed. A structured pathway of courses that will guide them from point A to point B without confusion and unnecessary burdens associated with trying to figure out your next move.
- College is expensive, a structured pathway will assist students in making sure they are taking the right courses and making the most of their tuition dollars. Taking unnecessary courses takes away valuable time from family or even work opportunities that allow students to financially support themselves and their families. Today there are more and more non-traditional students enrolled in colleges, a structured pathway will make sure that parents and working adults are making the most of their time.
- Supporting Native Hawaiian students through their educational journey with the necessary mentors they need to guide them will keep the student engaged, informed and empowered.
- We all know the health care system is constantly changing and will require diverse and highly trained health professionals to meet the health care demands of our state. Why not target Native Hawaiian students into health care careers, allowing consumers the opportunity to receive health services from professionals they can relate to. Health professionals that look like them, that understand their needs and are aware of the cultural and social effects of their daily lifestyles.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Regina Cummings, MBA
Waimānalo, HI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 1:35 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: fu_dog_5@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Rebecca Delafield, a staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rebecca Delafield, MPH, Dr.PH(c)

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AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Chessa Harris, MBA, a Native Hawaiian, and a faculty member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chessa Harris, MBA

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chessa Harris, MBA

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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Chessa Harris, MBA

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Mikako Deguchi, an Assistant Specialist, and a staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

“Education is a fundamental human right and essential for the exercise of all other human rights. It promotes individual freedom and empowerment and yields important development benefits.” (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) We all should have an equal opportunity to achieve our own highest potential in an environment that nurtures the individual and the community.

Statistics and reports on educational outcome by ethnicity/race show that the current educational environment is not maximizing the individual's and community's potential for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders. To equally maximize the potentials, we need to create an environment that provides culturally- appropriate teaching methods and mentors/instructors/teachers who can connect well with Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities and students.

It is alarming that racial/ethnic gap in education, health, and income persistently exist in our society. To promote equity in education, health, and income among Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and ALL, I strongly support this bill.

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.
- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mikako Deguchi, DDS, MBA

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Aloha mai, Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, and members of the committees I am Mele Look, a resident of Waimanalo, O'ahu, a health researcher for the past 35 years, and presently the Director of Community Engagement the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health.

I speak today as an individual and am submitting testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. I support this bill for numerous reasons including:

- Health Science is a growing career area in Hawai'i, across the nation and across the world. A Health Science Academy would promote the economic opportunity for individuals and the state. Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i.
- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Malama pono,
Mele Look (41028 Manana Street, Waimanalo HI 96795)

COMMITTEE ON HIRE EDUCATION
SENATOR KAI'ALII KAHELE, CHAIR
SENATOR MICHELLE N. KIDANI, VICE CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
SENATOR MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, CHAIR
SENATOR BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA, VICE CHAIR

Bill Brown, President
Pana'ewa Hawaiian Home Lands Community Association (PHHLCA)
PO BOX 4788, Hilo, HI 96720

Thursday, February 9, 2017
1:15pm, Conference Rm 224

RE: COMMENTS ONLY ON SB 1294

Aloha Kakou,

It is our honor to comment our concerns on SB 1294 to both Senator Kahele and Senator Shimabukuro legislative committees; we are a native Hawaiian community in the District 1 region of this State with a historical value in growth for native Hawaiians in the Pana'ewa region furthermore as we are recognized by an Act of 1920 to be controlled by DHHL, we native Hawaiians have been noted to be disadvantage in education, 40% of native Hawaiians are housed in the prison industries of this state, and on the Health issue, native Hawaiians bear a disproportionately higher prevalence of many chronic medical conditions, such as obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, collectively known as cardiometabolic disorders. Whether these prevalent conditions are an onset by social dynamics, or a transformation on political outcomes for native Hawaiians, and/or lack the educational outreach within the native Hawaiian communities, we hope to provide a commentary to the rule of Legislative on SB 1294

SB 1294 seek to fund Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islanders, and first generation college students for an educational opportunity starting from high school teenagers and college bound students, this measure goes further to explain the validity of this asked funding and i quote, "The goal of the task force is to articulate priorities to advance health care equity for Native Hawaiians (not native Hawaiians on the Homestead) which would in turn improve health care for all people of Hawaii (page 2; line 16, 17, and 18)." Now this caught my attention because of the none committal towards native Hawaiian specifically and may i use the metaphor of the washing machine effect with the homogenization of a melting pot parable on the backs of native Hawaiians additionally this narrative seemed to profit off of our conditions in the name of equality and of course equity for the community-at-large.

Our native Hawaiian communities has for the longest been neglected by this state that includes legislation duties, case in point the LACK of funding for DHHL as ascribed by the Admission Act of 59' throughout this state's existence by surviving on its general lease fees additionally if any paltry efforts were made it was through created agencies the likes of Alu Like (diminished), Na Pua Noeau (diminished), QLCC downsized, Liko ae Scholarship program (no longer in existence) and the infamous fiery OHA who is indeed a duplication of the HHCA and receives insurmountable funding from this legislation despite inadequately servicing the Homesteaders directly because of its continual in-house fighting and a mission statement of debasement.....very distressing.

Our native Hawaiian communities definitely need attention that has been specify in this measure like an intrinsic community homestead programs to better OUR communities from our opio toward goals by this measure, the consideration of transcending programs to the native Hawaiian Communities through its nonprofits, and the opportunities to improve a better community for the all the people of Hawaii. PHHLCA wan to mahalo you for this opportunity for a written comment with this committee.

Bill Brown
PHHLCA

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Claire Townsend Ing, a multiethnic African American, and a faculty member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

African Americans can access Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) that are geared toward their needs as a group. Research has shown that, compared to African Americans who graduated from other schools, those with degrees from HBCUs report a greater sense of purpose and community and better social, physical, and financial well-being. The University of Hawai'i is where Native Hawaiians turn for a similar experience. I ask you to help them succeed by voting for the establishment of a health sciences academy for Native Hawaiians.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Claire Townsend Ing, DrPH
Assistant Professor
Dept of Native Hawaiian Health

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

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Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Dr. Kau'i Baumhofer, an epidemiologist, and a staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine's Department of Native Hawaiian Health. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

Our department co-chaired the Native Hawaiian Health Task Force which was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances. For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the

general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.

- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.
- 30% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander children have parents with high school degrees as their highest education level while 18% have parents with a bachelor's degree or higher. During the 2007 - 08 academic year, 34% of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander undergraduate males were enrolled in postsecondary education, yet smaller sample size of the Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander population made it difficult to provide data for undergraduate completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum, and currently, about 15% of Native Hawaiians or Pacific Islanders hold bachelor's degrees.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "N. Kau'i Baumhofer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

N. Kau'i Baumhofer, ScD, MPH, MA
Assistant Professor
Department of Native Hawaiian Health
John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawaii at Manoa

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, February 3, 2017 1:25 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: shane.nelsen@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shane Nelsen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Cc: micahalameda@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Micah Alameda	Individual	Support	No

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SB1294

Submitted on: 2/1/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Camila Chaudron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

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Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 224
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, my name is Shelley Soong, and am a student and staff member of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Within the labor force, Native Hawaiians have a lower rate of college degrees and are less likely to be employed in high paying management and professional occupations.
 - **Only 6.2% of individuals in areas with high proportions of Native Hawaiians (i.e., Nanakuli) hold a bachelor's degree compared to 21.6% of individuals in the overall Honolulu County area.**
- Graduate school attendance, after completing an undergraduate degree, is considered an important outcome for increasing the nation's professionals in health science careers. As access to graduate education is limited to those who excel at the undergraduate level, increasing the number of Native Hawaiian students that successfully complete and excel in undergraduate science degrees is critical at a national level.
 - **Only 1.9% of individuals in areas with high proportions of Native Hawaiians (i.e., Nanakuli) hold a graduate or professional degree compared to 11.1% of individuals in the overall Honolulu County area.**
- Data also suggests low graduation rates in science fields among Native Hawaiians, and attrition from the sciences is associated with an overall shortage of professionals in the science and health fields.

- Many studies, including those done in Hawai'i, find that a person's income is strongly associated with his or her longevity, and income is also strongly tied to a person's educational qualifications. Native Hawaiians who have lower educational attainment and income are more likely to engage in substance abuse and are at greater risk for behavioral health problems and chronic diseases.
- Current data suggest that Native Hawaiians are less likely to attend college than other ethnic groups partly due to low levels of preparation and inadequate finances.
 - For those Native Hawaiian students who do attend college, graduation and retention rates are consistently lower than the general student population. Students also identified that a strong desire to live close to family and participate in family activities and cultural pressures as factors that contributed to non-completion.
- Health care sector jobs are projected to increase by more than 160% by 2040 and wages are typically more in line with a livable wage for the State of Hawai'i. However, these jobs typically require a Bachelor's degree at minimum.
- Ultimately, a strong network of highly trained Native Hawaiian health professionals is needed to work in health care, conduct health disparities research and eliminate the racial and ethnic disparities that exist in health care.
- Multiple studies testing factors leading to retention identified that the more involved Native Hawaiian students are in school activities and interact with faculty members and other peers, the more likely they are to persist in their education. The development of a Health Sciences Academy with a focus on Native Hawaiian student retention would target integration of both the student and their family in school activities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,
Shelley Soong

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

Thursday February 9, 2017 at 1:15 PM
Conference Room 414
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1294

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

Honorable Chairs Kahele and Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kidani and Galuteria and members of the committee, I am Mahina Duarte, a principal of a Hawaiian culture based charter school on the island of Hawai'i. I wish to submit this testimony in strong support of SB 1294. This bill would develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system, in cooperation with relevant educational institutions, to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and first generation college attendees. This bill would also appropriate monies out of the general revenues of the State of Hawai'i for twenty permanent faculty and staff positions to establish and implement an undergraduate health sciences academy at the University of Hawai'i.

The Native Hawaiian Health Task Force was created during the 2014 legislative session with the goals of articulating priority areas that will help advance health equity for Native Hawaiians, and in turn, the health of Hawai'i's entire population. The task force recently presented its findings as well as 16 specific recommendations to improve the health of Native Hawaiians. One of these 16 recommendations was to develop an undergraduate health sciences academy within the University of Hawai'i system to target the recruitment and retention of Native Hawaiian students.

I support this bill for numerous reasons:

- Traditional Hawaiian culture encouraged the concept of life-long learning. Education encompassed all aspects of their life and was central to Hawaiian philosophy. Education gave people the ability and expertise they needed to support their families, but most importantly, it was a valuable resource within the community.
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Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mahina Duarte
School Principal

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 3:39 PM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: mahina@kalo.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mahina Duarte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: HWNTestimony
Cc: rkailianu57@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments:

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To: HWNTestimony
Cc: ryan4652@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Bradley Domingo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Sent: Thursday, February 9, 2017 10:46 AM
To: HWNTestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1294 on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM*

SB1294

Submitted on: 2/9/2017

Testimony for HWN/HRE on Feb 9, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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