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

Date: 03/15/2017

Time: 02:02 PM

Location:

Committee: House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0049, SD1

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the Workforce Development Council on workforce development initiatives. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) recognizes the intent of SB 49 SD1 and provides comments. This measure requires the Department to collaborate with the Work Development Council (WDC) on workforce development initiatives.

Given the WDC's limited resources and potential decrease in federal funding, the Department respectfully submits that the expanded scope of responsibilities proposed by SB 49 SD1 aimed towards improving the Department's Career Technical Education program may be better facilitated under SB 619 SD1 and SB 298 SD1. Passage of SB 49 SD1 will negatively impact the WDC's ability to carry out its Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) responsibilities pursuant to federal law.

WIOA and WDC Collaboration

Prior to and following the passage of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act on July 22, 2014, the Department collaborated with the WDC and numerous partners on developing and finalizing Hawaii's plan.

In April 2016, states submitted their WIOA plans. The U.S. Secretary of Labor approved Hawaii's Unified State Plan in September 2016. This Plan includes career pathways that consist of secondary, post-secondary levels and K-12 involvement by incorporating career-focused measures, pathways, and work-based learning experiences and credentials.

Hawaii State departments and the University of Hawaii and its community colleges are committed to sharing career pathway strategies as an effective way of helping adults and youth in acquiring marketable skills and industry recognized credentials. The development of a common Career Pathways System fosters integrated service delivery and implementation of the required new federal WIOA law and requires aligning core programs with all WIOA partners to

improve the workforce system.

Hawaii public schools and students will greatly benefit from Hawaii's Unified State Plan and the Department's ongoing collaboration with the University of Hawaii to develop a new industry-led career and technical education.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 49 SD1.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C. H. TASAKA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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March 15, 2017

To: The Honorable Roy M. Takumi, Chair
The Honorable Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair and
Members of the House Committee on Education

LATE

From: Allicyn H. Tasaka, Executive Director
Workforce Development Council

RE: SB49 SD1 Relating to Education, March 15, 2017 at 2:02p.m., Room 309

POSITION: COMMENTS

Good afternoon Chair Takumi, Vice Chair Har, and members of the Committee on Education. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council (WDC) offering comments on SB49 SD1 Relating to Education.

The purpose of this measure is to add to the education statute (302 A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, HRS) to require the Department of Education (DOE) to collaborate with the Workforce Development Council on workforce development initiatives. Additionally, SB49 SD1 adds new language to the Workforce Development Council (WDC) chapter 202-2, HRS, to require WDC to collaborate with the DOE on workforce development initiatives, sector strategies, career pathways, training, assessments, and submit a report to the Legislature on the progress of these initiatives.

WDC is responsible for administrative oversight and implementation of the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) in Hawaii. This includes managing the governance structure, grant signatory, grant oversight and grant reporting as well as the allocation of funds, issuing policy and procedural guidance and conducting fiscal and program monitoring.

The WDC is a small agency reconstituted over a year ago and surviving on federal funds to meet administrative needs to implement WIOA. WDC allocates the federal funds to the Counties to enable them to procure providers to deliver employment services at the American Job Centers (One-Stop Centers and affiliates). These centers include the core and mandatory partners who must work across programs in collaboration to provide a seamless customer experience. The service delivery is the responsibility of the Counties..

SB49 SD1 adds responsibilities to WDC that are outside the requirements of the federal WIOA program it is tasked to administer. WDC is almost totally federally funded. Funds are earmarked to be used to administer WIOA program only. State requirements will need general funds if this measure passes. Mandating the initiatives listed in this bill is estimated to cost WDC at least \$800,000 to implement the new services and initiatives.

It should be noted that DLIR also has a Workforce Development Division that provides training, including on-the-job training, placement and targeted industry sector development. The Department has public/private advisory groups on healthcare, agriculture, information technology and robotics that are administered by this Division.

The bill states that the WDC shall collaborate with the DOE on workforce development initiatives that include the following, which are challenging and may make it very difficult to implement:

- Page 8, lines 12-15, “(C) Focusing public resources on training that moves workers into industries with high-quality jobs that lead to better financial outcomes and longer job tenures for workers.” WDC currently operates on 99.9% federal funding and only \$12,000 is appropriated from State funds. The federal funds have extensive federal requirements attached to them. WDC does not have the sole responsibility for federally-funded training programs. WDC and the Counties’s Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs) partner to approve training programs and training providers for programs in each county through their American Job Centers. WDC is concerned about the definition of “longer job tenures” as our computer information systems are currently able to only measure the federally required measure of four quarters after exit. Any other requirement would require redesigning the system. Redesigning the system would be costly to WDC and we respectfully request State funding for the redesign if this responsibility is assigned to WDC.
- Page 8, lines 16-20, “(D) Facilitating the development of common programs for individuals to choose to enroll in postsecondary education and individuals who choose to development employment skills through work experience or on-the-job training.” WDC does not provide programs and design programs for training. As discussed in the previous section, the training programs are also the responsibility of the Counties’ LWIBs, who identify eligible training providers and their courses when the training providers apply to provide training.
- “Work Experience” and on-the-job training are currently administered by the federal programs and other programs within the State and Counties. These programs are subject to the availability of federal funds and grants. Consistent provision of these programs would require stable funding sources such as State general funds.
- Page 9, lines 1-2, “(E) Coordinating a common work assessment process between core partners;” Although the mandate is not clearly defined, we believe it would require designing and implementing a new information system and process that is not part of

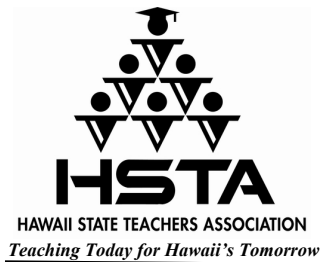
WDCs current system workflow. State funds would be required to design and implement the new system, and another Workforce Information and Data Coordinator position.

- Page 9, lines 3-4, “(F) Implementing the employment first state mentoring program; and.” The University of Hawaii Center for Disability Studies is the current administrator for the employment first state mentoring program. The program does not receive federal WIOA funds. WDC supports this program and is a participating partner through a cooperative agreement for employment first collaboration. The program is not a permanent program and is funded through a grant.

Page 9, lines 5-8, “(G) Maintaining the iCAN bridging program at the community schools for adults as a stepping stone to proceed into a career pathway leading to a work-readiness certificate or degree; and.” The iCAN bridging program is administered by DOE’s Adult Education Program and they receive WIOA Title II funds directly to pay for this program and fulfill the mandates of WIOA. The DOE Adult Education Program is a WIOA core partner committed to prepare individuals with skills and knowledge needed to succeed in postsecondary education and obtain employment.

- Page 9, lines 11-16, “(2) (A) Engage employers in the workforce development system by: (i) Promoting the benefits of using the system; (ii) Providing training in the system; and (iii) Making improvements to the system for the purpose of user friendliness;” The ability to engage employers is dependent on the availability of federal funds. The provision of training is limited to funds available. “Improvements to the system for the purpose of user friendliness” is also limited to fund availability as WDC’s access to administrative funds is limited by federal restrictions to administrative funds. These funds have seen drastic reductions in the past.
- Page 9, lines 17-18, “(B) Expanding employer involvement with program design.” WDC does not currently have the ability to design programs, but rather WDC administers programs.
- Pages 9-10, lines 19 -2, WDC is not clear on the definition and intent of “sustained through industry oversight and participation,” – does this mean each industry have an oversight advisory committee?
- Page 10, line 3, WDC already convenes a core and mandatory partner group monthly for the purpose of coordinating and integrating their programs into the American Job Centers.
- Page 10, lines 4-10, regarding requiring the submission of annual reports to the Legislature, this is already a requirement under HRS 202-2 (a)(14), WDC is required to submit annual reports of the its activities and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature, and post the annual reports electronically on the WDC website. This would be an additional requirement that would be considered duplicative.

The WDC and DOE are core partners with WIOA and have been collaborating well together to build the infrastructure and implement the terms of the federal law. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments for your consideration on this measure.



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION

RE: SB 49, SD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2017

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 49, SD1**, relating to schools.

According to the Hawaii State Department of Education, “Career and Technical Education is an educational structure that allows students the opportunity to explore and learn through the practical application of academic and technical skills and knowledge. The support and involvement of business and industry in CTE is critical to the preparation of tomorrow's skilled workforce.”

Yet, there is concern among CTE stakeholders (teachers, industry experts, and employers) about the lack of CTE inclusion in federal education legislation. As a result of the federal emphasis on high stakes accountability over the past decade, secondary schools across the state have diverted CTE funding to core content areas, especially English Language Arts and mathematics.

A majority of all current job openings, both locally and nationally, are for positions that do not require a college degree. While education reform rhetoric endlessly extols “college and career readiness,” job projections by the Hawai‘i Department of Labor show that, overall, more than 72 percent of the state’s projected openings through 2022 require a high school diploma or less. For comparison, about 15 percent of future openings require a bachelor’s degree and only 4 percent require a master’s, doctoral, or professional degree.

Hawai‘i's CTE offerings must be expanded, then, to allow young people to design their own futures. According to a national study, only 25 percent of polled job

seekers reported receiving career pathing in high school, however, with 41 percent saying that they wished they had received more vocational guidance. Careers taught through the state's CTE program—from automotive technology to environmental management to digital media—are at the cutting edge of our local economy, requiring real-world skills that students and employers desire, and that the CCRI paradigm too often fails to advance.

Vocational training should be a viable alternative to college, which is increasingly cost prohibitive for high school graduates and their families. One way of increasing participation in CTE programming is to require the department of education to collaborate with the workforce development council on workforce development initiatives, as this bill proposes, which would allow the 44 percent of Hawai'i high school graduates who do not seek post-secondary education to receive industry-based skills and certifications required to join the 21st Century job market.

To prepare students to become members of the modern workforce, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

EDNtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 6:37 PM
To: EDNtestimony
Cc: jamesjtz@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB49 on Mar 15, 2017 14:02PM*

SB49

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for EDN on Mar 15, 2017 14:02PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Gauer	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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