

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



JAMES K. NISHIMOTO
DIRECTOR

RYKER WADA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

March 29, 2017

**TESTIMONY TO THE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

For Hearing on Thursday, March 30, 2017
3:00 p.m., Conference Room 308

BY
JAMES K. NISHIMOTO
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

**Senate Bill No. 723, SD2, HD1
Relating to Education**

CHAIRPERSON LUKE, VICE CHAIR CULLEN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
ON FINANCE:

SB 723, SD2, HD1 adds as a purpose of the University of Hawai'i community college system the provision of occupational training and certification programs designed to rapidly qualify persons to fill new and hard-to-fill position classes for the State, counties, and private sector that require technical skills.

The Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) **strongly supports** this bill as it will help the University of Hawai'i community colleges provide individuals with occupational and certification program career options to meet the workforce needs of the public and private sectors.

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
March 30, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

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

SB 723 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 723 SD2 HD1. This measure would amend the statute that prescribes the functions of the UH Community Colleges to include rapid response occupational training and certification programs.

It is a core function of the UH Community Colleges to provide short-term, rapid response training to meet the continually changing requirements of the State's economy. Codification into statute provides formal recognition of this function as well as defines the specific expectations of the Legislature on how to fulfill this very important need.

The UH Community Colleges is in concurrence with the intent of the bill and strongly supports its passage on the condition that any requested funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Biennium Budget Request.