



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the Joint Hearing of the
Senate Committees on Higher Education and
Judiciary and Labor
February 2, 2017 at 1:15 p.m.

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

SB 723 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chairs Kahele and Keith-Agaran, Vice Chairs Kidani and Rhoads, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 723. 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.

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SB723

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for HRE/JDL on Feb 2, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Gauer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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SB723

Submitted on: 1/30/2017

Testimony for HRE/JDL on Feb 2, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments:

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

January 30, 2017

**TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
AND COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

For Hearing on Thursday, February 2, 2017
1:15 p.m., Conference Room 224

By

JAMES K. NISHIMOTO
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

**Senate Bill No. 723
Relating to Education**

(WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY)

CHAIRPERSONS KEITH-AGARAN AND KAHELE, VICE CHAIRS RHOADS AND KIDANI AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR AND COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION:

SB 723 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.