



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

Date: 04/03/2018
Time: 10:20 AM
Location: 211
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 159 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A COMPUTER SCIENCE TASK FORCE TO REVIEW COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAMS IN HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO SUPPORT, STRENGTHEN, AND ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS AMONG EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIES, AND BUSINESSES TO IMPROVE COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAMS.

**Purpose of
Resolution:**

Department's Position:

The Department of Education strongly supports SCR 159. The Department looks forward to participating in the Computer Science Task Force and partnering with key members to provide a multitude of learning options for students and teachers. In addition, the Department is excited about the networking possibilities with industry, business, institutes of higher education, and government entities to provide venues for internships, apprenticeships, and externships.

Currently, the Department is developing a multi-year comprehensive action plan. This plan will identify K-12 curriculum, software, and technologies. To ensure equitable and expanded access to computer science learning opportunities for K-12 students by 2022, the Department is addressing the following eight deliverables:

- 1) Adoption of Computer Science Standards aligned to national efforts,
- 2) Development of single courses and pathway courses for maximum student access,
- 3) Identification of standards-based curricular resources,
- 4) Quality K-12 professional development in computer science including fellowships and externships for teachers,
- 5) A schedule of academic competitions in partnership with business, industry and government,
- 6) Expansion of regional and school-based student demonstrations,

- 7) Increased partnerships for access to meaningful internship and apprentice models, and
- 8) Improved career counseling and information sharing around current and emerging computer science related work and study opportunities in Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 159.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
April 3, 2018 at 10:20 a.m.

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

SCR 159 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A COMPUTER SCIENCE TASK FORCE TO REVIEW COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAMS IN HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND TO SUPPORT, STRENGTHEN, AND ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIPS AMONG EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, INDUSTRIES, AND BUSINESSES TO IMPROVE COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAMS.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments on SCR 159 that recognizes the importance of computer science education and identifies computer related jobs as a fast-growing field of employment.

The University is supportive of strengthening computer science readiness among Hawai'i's students, and we are very willing to collaborate with the Department of Education in their efforts to promote computer science education.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

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To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: April 3, 2018, 10:20 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Re: Testimony on S.C.R. No. 159
Requesting the Department of Education to Convene a
Computer Science Task Force to review Computer Science
Programs in Hawaii's Public Schools and to Support,
Strengthen, and Establish Partnerships Among Educational
Institutions, Industries, and Businesses to Improve
Computer Science Programs

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this resolution, which would request the Department of Education to convene a Computer Science Task Force. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) takes no position on the proposed Task Force, but **is recommending deletion of an exemption to chapter 92, HRS, part I of which is the Sunshine Law, that the resolution seeks to create.**

OIP has previously held that a group created by resolution is generally not a "board" subject to the Sunshine Law. To be a "board," a group must be "created by constitution, statute, rule, or executive order," and creation by nonbinding resolution does not satisfy that requirement as it is not equivalent to creation by statute. OIP Op. Ltr. No. 08-02 at 3-7. Thus, it is unlikely that the

group called for by this resolution would be subject to the Sunshine Law in the first place.

Even for a “board” subject to the Sunshine Law, a resolution that the board was exempt from the Sunshine Law would be legally ineffective because a resolution, which is not legally binding, would not override statutory requirements such as those set out in the Sunshine Law.

Thus, the proposed Sunshine Law exemption is likely unnecessary, and would be ineffective. OIP recommends that to avoid confusion, this Committee should amend the resolution by deleting the proposed exemption (at page 4, lines 15-16).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.