



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

Date: 02/14/2019

Time: 02:35 PM

Location: 309

Committee: House Lower & Higher
Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 1274 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Provides for computer science professional development for teachers.
Appropriates funds.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 1274 to implement teacher professional learning opportunities for computer science courses and content, and respectfully provides comments.

During the 2017-2018 school year, the Department collaborated with stakeholders to create a strategic multi-year computer science action plan focused on advancing innovative outcomes and learning experiences for all students. The action plan includes the delivery of high-quality professional opportunities and embedded coaching that is essential to building teacher capacity and confidence in the development of rigorous computer science instruction in grades K-12.

Recognizing the need to build upon an array of resources, a professional services list of qualified prospective providers was established in October 2018 to expedite a complex area's or school's ability to procure services related to computer science learning and outcomes.

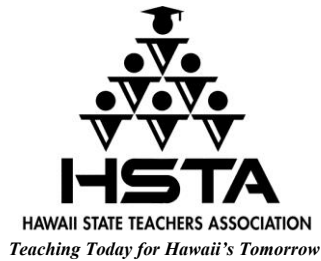
The Department's imperative is to build and sustain high quality STEM and computer science opportunities to ensure academic, economic and work force success. Equally important, the Department is cognizant that teachers must be equipped with appropriate, high-quality computer science professional development opportunities to ensure high quality instruction and a collective response to the exponential growth of computing skills required in the job industry. Additionally, there is a sharpened focus to ensure access for under-represented populations and growing the capacity of educators ranging from novice to accomplished practitioners.

The Department looks forward to continuing to leverage the ongoing collaboration with its valued stakeholders as we advance the vision of computer science and STEM. Further, the Department is appreciative of the appropriation included in this measure provided that its

passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Education (BOE) approved budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 1274.

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.



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
LOWER & HIGHER EDUCATION

RE: HB 1274 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Woodson and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports HB 1274 relating to education with suggested amendments. This measure would appropriate funds to the department of education to establish a program with eligible entities to develop and implement teacher professional development for computer science courses and content.

The landscape in the area of computer sciences is ever-changing, thus the requested program is necessary to help guarantee that teachers are able to provide our public school students with the most up-to-date information in this rapidly expanding field. Without a robust capacity of computer science educators, our public schools will not be able to offer students the computer science opportunities that will make them competitive in the 21st century labor market.

At this time, the majority of computer science jobs offered in Hawaii are filled by mainland hires who can fulfill the job requirements remotely. In order for the state of Hawaii to build a strong workforce in this sector, it is crucial that our public schools expand their computer science curriculum. This cannot occur, however, without a pool of qualified educators to teach this content. An appropriation to the HDOE to offer computer science professional development opportunities is imperative provided these professional development opportunities are made easily accessible for any and all K-12 public school educators without restrictive application requirements. Thus the Hawaii State Teachers Association is requesting the following amendment to HB 1274:

Page 2 line 14 -17: SECTION 2. (a) The department of education shall enter into a contract or agreement with one or more entities to develop and implement computer science professional development programs ~~for teachers~~ directly accessible to teachers;

Passing this bill will help ensure that the Hawaii Department of Education is able to quickly build its capacity of computer science educators so that our students have the opportunity to be competitive in the 21st century job force. For this reason, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** and **amend** HB 1274.

HB-1274

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 11:40:17 AM

Testimony for LHE on 2/14/2019 2:35:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Melodie Aduja | O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i | Support | No |

Comments: