



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 24, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.

By
Erika Lacro
Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1994 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges supports the intent of HB 1994 HD1, which incorporates two very promising initiatives.

The first initiative facilitates collaboration in K-12 STEM education by bringing together major stakeholders to form a network-improvement community task force to develop K-12 STEM teacher education.

The second initiative is to appropriate funds to subsidize travel expenses and/or tuition that gives Maui County students (18-20) opportunities to study abroad experiences.

1. The overall benefit of study abroad is that it maximizes the global learning of each partnering institutions by providing students with top quality global education and better potential in securing a good job in the future.
2. This academic year, University of Hawai'i Maui College (UHMC) successfully supported 7 (seven) students to study in Japan and Okinawa. The success has created increased interest to students wishing to study abroad.
3. The major challenge for most students is cost.
4. It also stimulates UH Maui College's enrollment management target for international students.

We support the intent of this Bill on the condition that any requested positions or funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Supplemental Budget request.

Thank you for opportunity to testify on HB 1994 HD1.



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

Date: 02/24/2020
Time: 12:00 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 1994, HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes, and appropriates funds for, a network improvement community task force to develop a K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teacher education degree for the University of Hawaii. Appropriates funds for the office of international and regional partnerships of the University of Hawaii Maui college for study abroad programs. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 1994, HD1, to develop the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teacher pipeline to address the shortage of qualified STEM teachers in Hawaii, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Education-approved budget.

The Department notes that the work of the proposed task force overlaps with the charge of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC), under HRS 304A-1202. The Department recommends that this work be incorporated under the TECC with clearly defined roles and responsibilities of task force members.

The Department also notes that teaching and learning is aligned to state standards in science, computer science, and mathematics. Complex areas may not have a "complex area curriculum" (page 3, line 3 of the bill) in each of these content areas. Board Policies 105-1: Academic Program and 105-3: Curriculum, outline the role of schools in making curricular and instructional decisions to provide a quality, standards-based academic program. The Department's school design strategy prioritizes a flexible and adaptive approach, empowering each school to make decisions about specific contexts and partnerships for developing high quality and relevant learning experiences based on the needs of their students and the local community. Within the Department, a tri-level system comprised of the schools, complex areas and state offices respond and provide multiple instructional and infrastructure supports to meet a school's outcomes across the range of school design models.

The Department respectfully recommends that the charge of the task force include researching existing programs and initiatives within the Department and University of Hawaii system.

As to Part II of this measure, the Department respectfully defers to the University of Hawaii System.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1994, HD1.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. 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.

Michael P. Victorino
Mayor

Sananda K. Baz
Managing Director



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February 22, 2020

TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Victorino".

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Monday, February 24, 2020, 12:00PM
Conference Room 308

HB 1994 HD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair
Honorable members of the Committee on Finance

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of HB 1994 HD1.

The purpose of this bill is to establish, and appropriate funds for, a network improvement community task force to develop a K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teacher education degree for the University of Hawaii. It also appropriates funds for the office of international and regional partnerships of the University of Hawaii Maui college for study abroad programs.

A task force would be an important first step for ensuring recruitment and retention of K-12 STEM teachers, which is sorely needed throughout the State and in Maui County. The task force would be coordinated through the University of Hawaii Maui College ("UHMC") campus, and would provide the opportunity for input from Maui education stakeholders on the creation of a teacher education degree program.

Additionally, this bill would appropriate funds for study abroad programs in the Office of International and Regional Partnerships at UHMC. These programs provide great benefit to students and value for Maui County by promoting cross-cultural competence, and economic and educational relationships worldwide.

I urge you to pass this measure, HB 1994 HD1.

HB-1994-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2020 9:00:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/24/2020 12:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments: