



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

Date: 02/07/2020

Time: 02:20 PM

Location: 309

Committee: House Lower & Higher
Education

Department: Education

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

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

Purpose of Bill: Makes an appropriation to the Office of International and Regional Partnerships of the University of Hawaii Maui College for study abroad programs.

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 1 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.

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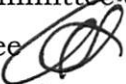


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COUNTY COUNCIL
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February 6, 2020

TO: The Honorable Justin H. Woodson, Chair
House Committee on Lower and Higher Education

FROM: Alice L. Lee 
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB 1994, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to make an appropriation to the Office of International and Regional Partnerships, University of Hawaii Maui College for study abroad programs.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. This Act appropriates funds to the Office of International and Regional Partnerships, University of Hawaii Maui College for scholarships to subsidize travel expenses and tuition for study abroad programs.
2. This Act will encourage students to study abroad to gain foreign language skills and cross-cultural competence and develop economic and educational relationships in an increasingly globalized world.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

LATE

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Lower and Higher Education
Friday, February 7, 2020 at 2:20 p.m.

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

HB 1994 Proposed HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges supports the intent of HB 1994 Proposed HD1. HB 1994 Proposed HD1 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 seven (7) 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. The UHMC International and Regional Office is collaborating with the community (i.e., Maui County Sister Cities Foundation; local businesses and Fukuyama Chamber of Commerce and Industry) to also raise funds for this initiative.
5. 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 Proposed HD1.