



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

Date: 02/10/2020
Time: 02:45 PM
Location: 229
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: SB 2259 RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the department of education adult community schools program. Appropriates funds.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2259 provided it does not affect the priorities set by the Department's Board-approved budget.

The Hawaii Community Schools for Adults, as a recipient of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant, has been working collaboratively with the Workforce Development Council, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and the Department of Human Service's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, along with employers in the job market and the community colleges. The collective focus of this work has been to design an inter-agency workforce development program for youth and adults with an expressed interest to pursue trades and other employment opportunities.

The Department is strongly committed to supporting, strengthening, and advancing a consolidated statewide effort by the Community Schools for Adults to prepare students for the career pipeline with the appropriate skills, attributes, certifications, and/or college credit to contribute to the vitality of Hawaii's workforce.

Lastly, the Department is appreciative of the budgetary appropriation included in this measure and will review the resources necessary to launch a workforce readiness program beginning school year 2020-2021.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2259.

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.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI
DIRECTOR

ANNE EUSTAQUIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
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February 10, 2020

To: The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair,
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Education

Date: Monday, February 10, 2020
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Scott T. Murakami, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: S.B. No. 2259 RELATING TO SCHOOLS

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

SB2259 proposes to amend Chapter 302A of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) by establishing within the Department of Education (DOE) a workforce readiness program within the adult community schools program; allowing the DOE to coordinate with the DLIR and the Department Human Services' Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and contract with industry employers to develop and implement the program; and appropriate funds for the program.

DLIR supports the intent of this measure provided it does not conflict with the priorities identified in the Governor's Supplemental Budget request.

II. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL

The measure will help prepare students to enter the workforce. The DLIR notes that some public high schools have been successful in encouraging their students to pursue higher education or receive occupational training through "academies." Through funding for mini grants provided by the Legislature, the DLIR will continue to work with the DOE to help establish and implement workforce readiness programs.



STATE OF HAWAII
Executive Office on Early Learning
2759 South King Street
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

February 9, 2020

TO: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: Measure: S.B. No. 2259 – RELATING TO SCHOOLS
Hearing Date: February 10, 2020
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Location: Room 229

Bill Description: Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the department of education adult community schools program. Appropriates funds.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING'S POSITION: Comments

Good afternoon. I am Lauren Moriguchi, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on S.B. 2259.

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State's early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children.

If this measure is enacted, we respectfully request that early childhood education be included in implementation of the workforce readiness program. Early childhood education is one of the industries and fields in Hawaii that are sorely lacking a pool of qualified workforce candidates.

It is precisely during the earliest years before brain development is largely complete (before kindergarten), and particularly for those who come from disadvantaged backgrounds – the priority population for the EOEL Public Pre-K Program – that our children need the best educators. It is critical to promote equity.

As we work to increase access to qualified early learning opportunities for our keiki, we must focus on addressing the severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators (i.e., those with coursework and background in early childhood, and supported with ongoing professional development, who research shows are most effective). Even as the EOEL

Public Pre-K Program stands now with just over 40 classrooms across the state, we have difficulty recruiting and turnover is high. This can be attributed in part to the fact that over half of the teaching staff in the EOEL Public Pre-K Program have not completed coursework in early childhood education and assumptions about pre-K teaching that are inconsistent with the knowledge and competencies required of teaching staff in settings for preschool-aged children.

Unqualified teaching staff do not have the requisite understanding to support preschoolers and families living in difficult circumstances. When vulnerable children encounter teachers who are unprepared to support their developmental needs, what may result are increased instances of stress-induced behavior problems, inappropriate referrals to special education, and suspensions or expulsions ... all of which may incur high costs to the State.

Given the severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators in the state, we believe that incentives such as that proposed in this bill would be mutually beneficial for both the community and our students who are interested in entering the field of early childhood education. Students would work toward a Child Development Associate certificate; for example, this would allow them to work as an educational assistant in the EOEL Public Pre-K Program.

Thank you for your consideration.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
McKINLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

634 PENSACOLA STREET, ROOM 216
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

Telephone: (808) 594-0540 FAX: (808) 594-0544

February 7, 2020

Testimony in Support of SB 2259

Measure Title: Relating to Schools
Report Title: DOE; Workforce Readiness Program; Establishment; Appropriation (\$)
Description: Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the department of education adult community schools program. Appropriates funds.

McKinley Community School for Adults supports SB 2259 to establish a workforce readiness program that will provide additional employment opportunities for our students.

While our primary mission is to graduate our students with a GED or HISET high school equivalency diploma, there are special populations of students without a high school diploma such as: individuals with disabilities; individuals from economically disadvantaged families, including low-income; individuals preparing for non-traditional fields; single parents, including pregnant women; out of work individuals; English learners; homeless individuals; youth who are in, or have aged out of the foster care system; chronically unemployed or underemployed; or individuals who were recently released from our correctional facilities who are able to enter the workforce without a high school diploma but need to complete a workforce preparation program to meet the minimum requirements for job entry.

In its recent 2017 Hawaii Labor Market Dynamics, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) has identified 11 projected entry level job openings that do not require a high school diploma to include transitional jobs such as sales persons, waiters, and waitresses, cashiers, food preparation, maids and housekeepers, cooks, groundskeepers, laborers, and movers. Employers are in dire need of a basic education and job training programs that we the community schools can provide to meet the minimum qualifications for employment entry into these less skilled jobs.

Stakeholder engagement across education, the business industry and communities is essential to the success of the program that can lead to a job for this special population and reduce a dependence on social services. The Hawaii Community School for Adults is strongly committed to preparing our students for Hawaii's workforce and we are prepared to implement our workforce development program. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2259.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen H. Sanpei".

Helen H. Sanpei, Principal

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 5:06:05 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pat Anbe	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB2259 and the positive impact it will have on the Hawaii Adult Schools and the communities we serve. Our learners come to us in hopes of bettering their lives and the lives of their families. The education we provide serves the purpose of advancing individuals in literacy, life and career skills. Many of our students do not come with employability and professional skills and need education and assistance in becoming qualified employees.

As the adult schools are a mandatory partner of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA), we are required to help transition our learners from school to work. The passing of SB2259 will help tremendously in allowing us to carry out our mission of advancing adult learners to the workforce by providing a workforce development credential that our students can earn.

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 3:16:57 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

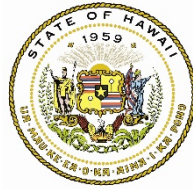
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
J.Leong	Testifying for McKinley CSA - Moanalua Campus	Support	No

Comments:

As an adult community school employee for many years, I feel this bill is beneficial to the public for creating a viable work force for the State of HI. I look forward to assisting students as they complete and receive their Workforce Development Diploma.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 417, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 586-8630 Web: <http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/>

To: The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Education

Date: Monday, February 10, 2020
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director
Hawaii Workforce Development Council

Position: Strong Support

Re: HB No. 2259 Relating to Schools

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Amends Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes by adding within the Department of Education (DOE) a workforce readiness program to be administered by the adult community schools program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates that assess and document the student's readiness for employment. Funds of \$100,000 has been appropriated for fiscal year 2020-2021.

The Hawaii Workforce Development Council (WDC) strongly supports this measure. WDC partners with DOE's adult education programs to ensure that education, training and support services are provided to individuals with disabilities, low level of literacy, formerly justice involved (ex-offenders), out-of-school youth/at-risk youth and youths that have aged out of foster care.

The Workforce Readiness Diploma program addresses the needs of adult basic education students to acquire needed and in-demand skills to prepare them for the workplace. With more boomers retiring, employers are looking to fill the workforce gap with Millennials and Gen X workers but it may not be enough as they have limited work experience. The wide range of ages and experiences of those who access adult education and services may be ideal to help fill this growing gap.

Programs such as GED or HiSET high school equivalency and workforce readiness diplomas provide a foot in the door, especially for special populations by opening

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please contact the WDC at (808) 586-8866 (for TTY/TTD Dial 711 then ask for (808) 586-8866) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible will allow adequate time to fulfill your request. Upon request, this notice is available in alternative formats such as large print, Braille, or electronic copy.

employment opportunities that otherwise would not have existed. The more people who work contribute to Hawaii's thriving workforce and economy.

The WDC administers and implements the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) for Hawaii. WDC is a State board comprised of 41 members, of whom the majority are private business sector members appointed by the Governor. The agency administers WIOA Title I funds for adult, dislocated workers and youth programs that are allocated to the Workforce Development Boards on Oahu, Kauai, Maui and Hawaii Island. The local boards work through the American Job Centers to deliver direct services in career development, employment and training for job seekers with barriers to employment; help low-wage workers upgrade their skills; and provide resources to support businesses.

TO: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Education

FROM: Robert G. Peters, Chair
Early Learning Board

SUBJECT: **Measure:** S.B. No. 2259 – RELATING TO SCHOOLS
Hearing Date: February 10, 2020
Time: 2:45 p.m.
Location: Room 229

Bill Description: Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the department of education adult community schools program. Appropriates funds.

Early Learning Board's Position: Comments

I am Robert G. Peters, Chair of the Early Learning Board (ELB). Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on behalf of the ELB related to S.B. No. 2259.

Through Act 202, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, ELB transitioned from an advisory to a governing board for the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) and is charged with formulating statewide policy relating to early learning. We are composed of members from across the early childhood field, in both the public and private sectors.

ELB's mission is to support children's academic and lifelong well-being by directing and supporting the EOEL for an effective, coordinated, high-quality early learning system from prenatal to kindergarten entry. EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State's early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children.

If this measure is enacted, the ELB respectfully requests that early childhood education be included in the implementation of the workforce readiness program. Early childhood education is one of the industries and fields in Hawaii that is sorely lacking a pool of qualified workforce candidates.

As we work to increase access to qualified early learning opportunities for our keiki, we must focus on addressing the severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators (i.e., those with coursework and background in early childhood, and supported with ongoing professional development, who research shows are most effective).

Even as the EOEL Public Pre-K Program stands now with just over 40 classrooms across the state, it has difficulty recruiting and turnover is high. This can be attributed in part to the fact that over half of the teaching staff in the EOEL Public Pre-K Program have not completed coursework in early childhood education.

Given the severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators in the state, the ELB believes that incentives as proposed in this bill would benefit both the community and our students who are interested in entering the field of early childhood education. Students would work toward a Child Development Associate certificate; this would allow them to be an educational assistant in the EOEL Public Pre-K Program, for example.



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Paul Kosasa, ABC Stores, *Advisor*
Derek Kurisu, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*
Beau Oshiro, C&S Wholesale Grocers, *Advisor*
Toby Taniguchi, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

TO:
Committee on Education
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: February 10, 2020
TIME: 2:45pm
PLACE: Conference Room 229

RE: SB2259 Relating to Schools

Position: Support

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

HFIA supports efforts to align educational curriculum to workforce readiness. One of the biggest challenges of doing business in Hawaii right now is lack of skilled, trained workers. Many of our member companies would be interested in collaborating with high schools, the Department of Education Adult Community Schools, community colleges, and the workforce development council to create this program. We believe that increasing workforce readiness will have benefits for Hawaii employees, Hawaii business, and Hawaii consumers.

We thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

Monday, February 10, 2020 at 2:45 PM
Conference Room 229

Senate Committee on Education

To: Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

From: Carl Hinson
Director, Workforce Development

Re: **Testimony in Support of SB 2259
Relating to Schools**

My name is Carl Hinson, Director of Workforce Development at Hawai'i Pacific Health (HPH). Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I write in support of SB 2259 which establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the department of education adult community schools program.

Collaboration between educators, community colleges, the workforce development council and industry employers would make it possible to train students in fields where the need is greatest and jobs are available. A workforce readiness program would ensure that students learn skills and earn credentials required for employment by industry after graduation or completion of the community school for adults workforce preparation program. Students may also earn pre-apprenticeship certificates and other certificates recognized by industry, in addition to an associate degree.

As one of the largest employers in the state, HPH recognizes the value of the program proposed in SB 2259 in producing future employees who have been provided with the skills needed to make a meaningful contribution to the workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 5:35:30 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chad H Okinaka	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

Current high school graduates, as well as non-graduates would benefit from aligning educational curriculum to a workforce readiness preparation program. This alignment depends upon close collaboration between the department of education adult community schools and high schools, community colleges, workforce development council, and employers. A workforce readiness program would ensure that students learn skills and earn credentials required for employment by industry after graduation or completion of the community school for adults workforce preparation program.

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 12:45:27 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark T. Nakamura	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Mark T. Nakamura and I am one of the Vice Principals for the McKinley Community School for Adults (MCSA). I am providing written testimony today to express my support for SB 2259 to establish a workforce readiness program that will provide additional employment opportunities for our students.

The primary mission of the MCSA is to support students in their pursuit and eventual attainment of a GED or HISET high school equivalency diploma. However, there are individuals in Hawaii who are from disadvantaged families, who are not native speakers of English, who are unemployed and individuals who are homeless who may not have had the means to earn a high school diploma or equivalency, but need to complete a workforce preparation program that would give them the requisite skills needed to enter the workforce. Consequently, the establishment of a workforce readiness program is imperative to give people the opportunity to receive the education necessary to develop workforce readiness skills so that they can not only be a contributing member of society as a member of the workforce, but to also instill within these individuals a means to be motivated to improve their lives through education. Individuals who successfully complete a workforce readiness program can then serve as an inspiration to others for a better life, or even as a means to stretch and break out of their comfort zone to push themselves further.

Education is a means of opportunity as education can lead to someone learning a trade, gaining entry level work skills, or higher level job opportunities and the workforce readiness program can be means to accomplish those goals. Hawaii is a unique land with a diversity of people from different ethnic groups and socio-economic backgrounds who are all doing their best to make a living, provide for themselves, and for their families. However, sometimes despite their best intentions, individuals may not have the educational background and work skills to make a living and a workforce readiness program would give such individuals hope that there is still that opportunity if they so choose to take it, through the learning of workforce readiness skills.

I believe that education is a means to a better quality of life. Education exercises one's mind and instills an appreciation of learning. Although education is not the magic bullet to solve all of our challenges within our society, the establishment of a workforce

readiness program is the planting of a seed of opportunity that can grow and bring emotional, personal, financial, and work related success and stability to individuals in Hawaii for this current generation while serving as a bridge of sustainability and inspiration for future generations. Education is a means to bridge the gap between those who have and those who do not have as much and an establishing of a workforce readiness program can be the means through which negative cycles are broken by giving individuals the opportunity to improve themselves.

Support from stakeholders not only in education, but in the areas of business and in the community is essential to supporting this program which can help to reduce dependence on social services. The MCSA is committed to servicing our students and giving them a foundation of skills to properly service our community through employment which can also give them a means to a better quality of life. Thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony with you today in support of SB 2259.

Sincerely,

Mark Nakamura, Vice Principal

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 3:17:20 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ROBERTA TANAKA	Testifying for McKinley Community School	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 3:28:07 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shelby Hamamoto	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

Please support this education bill as it will help to establish a workforce readiness program within our Adult Community Schools program. Earning a workforce development diploma will assist adults in preparing them with the skills necessary to get a job or furthering their education. Furthermore, this program will help strengthen the working relationship of the community partners and community school to prepare adults for the growing demands of the workforce. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Shelby Hamamoto

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 1:36:35 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Takeba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB 2259. I live in Waianae and know of many individuals who are looking for jobs but don't have the training to help them. Please pass this bill so that they can go to work and support themselves and family. Thank you.

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 2:51:17 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Uehara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/7/2020 4:05:36 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Stanley Kayatani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

While the majority of legislative bills are enacted to regulate and/or control existing conditions, SB 2259 provides for one of the few opportunities for legislators to establish a lifelong, legislative legacy. The results of this bill will allow the Hawaii DOE, Community School for Adults and DLR to establish a Workforce Readiness Program. This will provide necessary training for individuals to earn a Workforce Readiness Diploma and enter the workforce, eliminating the need for public subsistance. It will be a terrific investment that will pay for itself as more unemployed individuals enter the workforce. As such, I fully support and highly recommend the passing of SB 2259. Mahalo!

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/8/2020 10:05:29 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Park	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB2259. Our State of Hawaii Department of Education Adult Education programs play an integral role in our communities. Not only do the Adult Education programs provide opportunities for students to earn a high school equivalency, but the adult community schools also help to prepare individuals for the workforce. A workforce readiness program and credential can help students to find a path to employment. This path would include development and education that is aligned with industry needs and individual student goals. Furthermore, a workforce readiness program will help to ensure that individuals receive industry-based skills and necessary credentials for employment.

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 1:54:15 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Azuma Chrupalyk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This should also become a mandatory requirement to receive TANF and SSI. Subsequently, post-GED education should become a requirement. Case managers can work out the details with clients. Education has statistically proven successful on a global scale. Combined with an open dental program for the under-insured, many obstacles to economic success will be underway.

Oh, it would also be nice to raise minimum wage to Fair Labor Law standards as well. They keep building housing. we have plenty of structures. But we don't have enough wages to afford them. It would be nice to see a fair market increase in wages.

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 10:54:57 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carleen MacKay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

When most people look back in time, our young went to school and learned a standard curriculum; our middle years were committed to working, usually in one or two regular, slow evolving full-time jobs and...our old died young That was then.

Today, due to constantly evolving technology, the effects of globalization and, as importantly, much longer lifetimes than ever imagined, change is our constant. All ages need to keep up with new learning and earning and, all must see themselves in command of their lives and their work.

We need advanced learning and, as a nationally recognized emerging workforce expert, I am prepared to prove these claims that support this Bill. Ask me. In the meantime, look me up on LinkedIn for current workforce commitments to Hawaii.

LATE

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 10:27:51 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Fanar Jarjees	Testifying for DOE	Support	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support Senate Bill 2259 which is a Bill to establish a workforce readiness program within the DOE's Adult Community Schools Program. The Workforce Program provides learning opportunities for those entering the workforce without a high school diploma to equip them with the necessary basic education and access to job training programs. A small amount of money invested now would pay us back many times over in terms of higher tax revenues from resultant higher employment and reduced homelessness, and an improved future standard of living for those lacking a high school diploma.

LATE

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 11:01:12 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Miyao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kidani and Members of the Education Committee,

I support SB2259. One of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) requirements for the State of Hawaii Department of Education's Adult and Community Education program is the establishment of Integrated Education and Training (IET) programs which includes workforce readiness. The proposed Workforce Development Diploma is considered as an IET program that will meet this WIOA requirement. It will offer educational services to those adults who lack basic employability skills. The Workforce Development Diploma will also aid those individuals who are seeking advancement in their current jobs.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit a written testimony on this bill.

LATE

SB-2259

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 1:29:51 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/10/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Windward Oahu Adult School community is excited to build this program for its community. We serve a geographic area from Waimanalo to Sunset Beach and believe this WDDP will empower many people in the community to start on a path toward a happier and healthier lifestyle, beginning with education.