



LATE

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

Date: 02/27/2020
Time: 10:35 AM
Location: 211
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: SB 3156, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a statewide transition success network for high school students with disabilities starting fiscal year 20212022, with a pilot project to begin in fiscal year 20202021. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii Department of Education (Department) supports the intent and appreciates the amendments to SB 3156, SD1 requiring the establishment of a statewide transition success network for high school students with disabilities and the establishment of the statewide transition success network. The Department is committed to preparing students with disabilities for success after high school through experiences in post-secondary education, vocational training, and competitive employment. The Department offers the following amendments;

Page 6 Lines 20-21 and Page 7 Lines 1-7:

(5) ~~Direct the coordinator to explore the option of working with University of Hawaii center on disability studies to arrange for activities in its complex area to promote the purposes of this part, particularly needs arising from the review of annual needs assessment and common elements in high school transition plans, for example, creating or expanding customized employment opportunities for students with disabilities; and work with the University of Hawaii Center on Disability Studies (UH CDS), who will be responsible for being the "broker" between the schools and the businesses that will work with students with disabilities. In addition, UH CDS will provide job coaches who will accompany and support students in integrated work sites; and~~

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

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.



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

LATE

February 27, 2020

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thirtieth Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: SB 3156 SD1 – Relating to Education

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS** the intent of **SB 3156 SD1**, to establishes a statewide transition success network for high school students with disabilities

The Department of Education and the University of Hawaii, Center on Disability Studies initiative for a pilot project sounds promising and the Council fully supports the effort. However, we noted the absence of reference to already federal and state funded partners in SB 3156 SD1. Such as Department of Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Pre-Employment Transition Services, Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Division Waiver Program, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Youth and Disability Employment Initiative funding, as well as Pell Grant funding resources under the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) funding.

FAFSA funding reflects the need for the Department of Education and the University of Hawaii to identify how they will assist families whose children graduate high school with a certificate and are not part of the Department of Education's Career Pathways program to access FAFSA funding for college/vocational training other than through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation which has limited resources. FAFSA funding could be an additional resource, but is not available if the student does not have a General Educational Development (GED), high school diploma, exemption for home schooling under State laws, or enrollment in a recognized career pathway program and the "ability to benefit" from FAFSA funding for obtaining college or career school education.

For this reason we respectfully request a **new section be added to the bill** to assure state and federal funds are maximized. On page 7, line 8, change (6) to (7) and add (6) to read: "Direct the coordinator to explore the option of working with Department of Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Pre-Employment Transition Services, Department of Health Developmental Disabilities Division Waiver Program, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations WIOA Youth and Disability Employment Initiative funding, as well as Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) funding to assure all partners of state and federally funded programs are common elements in high school transition plans, regardless if the student is on a certificate or diploma track; and"

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and recommendations to strengthen
the need for SB 3156 SD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2020 5:30:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chanel	Testifying for KELII Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.



S E A C
Special Education Advisory Council

919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 101

Honolulu, HI 96814

Phone: 586-8126 Fax: 586-8129

email: spin@doh.hawaii.gov

February 27, 2020

LATE

**Special Education
Advisory Council**

Ms. Martha Guinan, *Chair*
Ms. Dale Matsuura, *Vice Chair*
Dr. Patricia Sheehey, *Vice
Chair*
Ms. Ivalee Sinclair, *Vice Chair*

Ms. Andrea Alexander
Ms. Brendelyn Ancheta
Ms. Virginia Beringer
Ms. Mary Brogan
Ms. Deborah Cheeseman
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Mr. Mark Disher
Dr. Kurt Humphrey
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Ms. Tina King
Ms. Bernadette Lane
Ms. Kaili Murbach
Ms. Stacey Oshio
Ms. Carrie Pisciotto
Ms. Kau'i Rezentos
Ms. Rosie Rowe
Dr. David Royer
Mr. James Street
Mr. Francis Tael
Mr. Steven Vannatta
Ms. Jasmine Williams
Ms. Susan Wood

Ms. Cara Tanimura, *liaison
to the Superintendent*
Dr. Bob Campbell, *liaison to
the military community*

Amanda Kaahanui, Staff
Susan Rocco, Staff

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Committee on Ways and Means
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: SB 3156, SD 1 - Relating to Education

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee,

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) **strongly supports** SB 3156 SD 1 that establishes a statewide transition success network for high school students with disabilities.

In Hawaii, as on the Mainland, students with disabilities experience lower graduation rates, lower college-going rates, underemployment and significantly lower lifetime earnings than their nondisabled peers. Effective transition planning and appropriate supports are key to more successful postsecondary outcomes.

This bill leverages and builds upon existing resources within the Department of Education--its transition-focused interagency planning group, the Community Childrens Councils and the annual Footsteps to Transition Fair. It partners with the Center on Disability Studies that was responsible for designing evidence-based transition planning tools for use by Hawaii schools as early as the 1990's and continues to provide meaningful demonstration projects like the Jobs Now Partnership. By requiring each high school to design transition supports that meet the unique needs of their student population, this legislation moves the needle from pockets of success to a statewide system capable of preparing some of its most vulnerable students for future success.

SEAC appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on this important issue, and we stand ready to support the Department in its efforts.

Sincerely,

Martha Guinan
Chair

Ivalee Sinclair
Legislative Committee Chair



LATE

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2020 8:49:30 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodee Haole	Testifying for Keiki Education Living Independent Institute (K.E.L.I.I)	Support	Yes

Comments:

My name is Melodee Haole, I am a parent of a severe Autistic 26 yr old who has violent behaviors. When my son was transitioning out of high school we had NO transition program or coordinator, the only choice my son was given is we could give him up to the state, place him in a mental institution or quite work to watch my son. I decided to quite work and start my own NON PROFIT organization name Keiki Education Living Independent Institute (K.E.L.I.I.) after my son Kelii, because the choices he was giving during transition was not Acceptable. I SUPPORT THIS BILL BUT WOULD LIKE THIS TRANSITION BILL BE FOR ALL LEVELS AND FUNCTIONS OF IDD YOUNG ADULTS THAT IS AGING OUT OF THE DOE. PERSONALLY MY SON WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO GO TO COLLEGE, OR TO WORK, OR DO JOB TRAINING. WHAT WE NEED IS A TRANSITION TRAINING CENTER, TEACHING THESE YOUNG ADULTS LIFE SKILLS, PREPARING THEM AND THIER FAMILY FOR THE TRANSITION AND GETTING THEM PREPARED FOR LIFE OUT OF THE DOE WITHOUT ALL THE SUPPORT. MY NON PROFIT IS FOCUSED ON TRANSITION AND HOUSING AND WOULD LOVE TO WORK WITH THE DOE TO START A PILOT PROGRAM.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN A SPECIAL NEED FAMILY LIFE.

MAHALO MELODEE HAOLE

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2020 3:16:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chuan Chinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB3156 SD1. I am especially enthusiastic about the pilot project that was added by the senate education and human services committees in the action they took on Feb 3, 2020. I recommend that you provide appropriation no less than \$300,000 to implement the pilot project at one complex or in at least one school. It is important for our schools to equip the students with disabilities with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to get the jobs or necessary vocational training in preparation for work after high school. They will become tax payers and make meaning contributions to the society.

February 26, 2020
Testimony before the Education and Human Services Committees
Hawaii State Senate
In favor of SB 3156 SD1
The Hawaii Transition Success Network Act

Chairman **Dela Cruz**:

Thank you for this opportunity. My name is Patricia Morrissey, I am director of the Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawai'i, Mānoa. I am speaking today, however, in my **private capacity**. I want to thank **Senator Kim** for introducing SB3156 and you for holding this **critical hearing**.

I **support** SB3156 SD1 as amended in the Senate Education and Human Services Committees. The legislation is **ground-breaking**. Based on my review, it is the **only** legislation in the Nation that proposes **an evidenced-based infrastructure** that will help the Department of Education, parents, other professionals, and community members offer, **in a systematic way, designed by each high school**, opportunities for young people with disabilities to **prepare for and access postsecondary education and/or employment at a competitive wage in an integrated setting**. **It's timing, it's structure, and its components**, especially the **school-based transition plan** for all students with disabilities in a high school are things that will create, sustain and expand what is now, **only available in a few locations**, throughout the state. Students will be offered a wide range of opportunities and training on, such things as – **customized employment, soft**

skills, internships, apprenticeships, self-determination, independent living, financial and technology literacy, coaching through simulations and real experiences, including job fairs and higher education recruitment events.

The provisions in this legislation grew out of a federally funded project called the Jobs Now Partnership being conducted by the **Center on Disability Studies**. By talking to parents, young people with disabilities, offering training, talking with professionals in the Department of Education and in other agencies, **we have learned what is needed and demonstrated what is effective. By having a statewide infrastructure, we can do so much more and touch the lives of every child in high school with a disability and give them more than hope. We can provide skills and experiences that will allow them to enter adulthood successfully and become taxpayers.**

Some of the specific benefits of enacting this legislation are:

- Transition plans in Individualized Education Programs **will become more specific and effective**
- Each high school will design a transition plan for the school and **receive money to implement it.**

- Schools, parents, other professionals, and community members including employers, will have a reason, a structure, and funding, to bring about **more collaboration and positive futures for young people with disabilities.**

The amended version of SB3156 includes a **pilot project in school year 2020 – 2021, to launch and learn from the evidence-based provisions in this legislation as early as possible and serve as a catalyst for launching the network statewide in school year 2021-2022. I respectfully request that you provide an appropriation, perhaps \$300,000, to initiate the pilot project and allow for the provision of technical assistance to the selected school.**

I will be glad to answer any questions.

Thank you.

Patricia Morrissey, Ph.D.

Director, Center on Disability Studies, College of Education, University of
Hawai'i, Mānoa

pmorriss@hawaii.edu

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2020 3:41:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shree Deshpande	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Shree Deshpande and I am a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i. I have worked with students, and the families of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities mostly of transition age for the past year and a half.

I support SB3156 SD1. I am enthusiastic about the bill ensuring equal opportunity for jobs and living for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. I am also excited for its positive economic impact for Hawai'i.

We take opportunity for granted when we don't have a visible or marked disability or a student with a visible or marked disability. These students deserve equal opportunity for jobs and living. The pilot study would fund the basis of a broader network that would see these students having expanded opportunities for job training, workshops for parents, teachers, and students, on topics as diverse from IEP construction to social skills, to employers attending reverse job fairs at high schools.

In turn, the bill will have a positive impact on Hawai'i's economy. If we want Hawai'i to have a workforce that is not merely confined to tourism and construction and that can withstand the impact of automation, it will need a large trained and skilled workforce. According to a recent fact sheet released by the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations Research & Statistics office on job opportunities in 2026 (<https://www.hiwi.org/admin/gsipub/htmlarea/uploads/BJO-2016-2026-State-Rev.pdf>), the "best" job opportunities for folks without a high school diploma or with only a high school diploma have a high chance of being automated. This bill would help ensure students with intellectual and developmental disabilities are not confined to staying at home, nor relegated to temporary or otherwise precarious jobs. They would be visible and productive members of society working a variety of jobs that require a diversity of skills. Because they were able, ready, and prepared thanks to measures like this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to y'all today. I urge you support SB 3156 SD1 as well.

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2020 3:46:24 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chin Lee	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Committee members of Senate Ways and Means Committee

Thank you for scheduling a hearing for this important legislation. I am in support of SB3156 to establish a transition network in Hawaii. A Transition Network will help students with disabilities transition to independent and productive lives after high school. While the concept is not new, if implemented statewide, Hawaii will be the first in nation to have a statewide transition network. Transition network can provide tool, outreach, training and workshop opportunities, technical assistance, information and much more to support students (and their families members) in their successful transition from high school to employment or post-secondary. These students will in turn become a contributing, tax-paying member of the society and Hawaii as a whole is more inclusive.

The amended version of SB3156 includes a pilot project for school year 2020 - 2021. This will allow DOE to implement a transition network in a piloit school, and serve as a catalyst for launching a statewide transition network. I strongly support the legislation and the appropriation to make this a reality.

Thank you for your time.

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2020 10:36:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: [L. Elento](#)
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Subject: SB3156 SD1 Testimony (online)
Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 6:16:02 PM



SB3156 SD1 Relating to Education is written for students such as my 19-year-old who will continue to be eligible for High School services pursuant to IDEA until his 22nd birthday because **language development and communication skills** are at the top of the list for his success. *Page 4, Lines 1-5*

1. The need for a Statewide Transition Success Network is real. Current education systems and access to services are unequal, ineffective or non-existent. *Page 2, Lines 1-4*

2. The Legislature must recognize within Hawaii law the need for more than a two-track option (regular high school diploma and certificate of attendance) for all high school students with disabilities, especially those with developmental or intellectual disabilities. *Page 2, Lines 4-8*

3. Parents have a fundamental right to direct their children's education. *Page 3, Lines 3-7*

4. Students want to be included, not separated. Sec. 504 of the Rehab. Act provides for equal educational rights and civil rights protections for students eligible under Sec. 504 and IDEA, and ADA. *Page 3, Lines 11-13*

5. Students with disabilities need to be able to choose, having free access to a Network, not being subject only to an "IEP or MP" team's decision." *Page 9, Lines 10-16*

6. Agency cooperation: The DOE should not be the only decision-maker. *Page 10, Lines 7-11*

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments in support of SB3156 SD1**. Linda Elento

LATE

SB-3156-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2020 6:04:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Elento	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB3156 SD1 Relating to Education is written for students such as my 19-year-old who will continue to be eligible for High School services pursuant to IDEA until his 22nd birthday because **language development and communication skills** are at the top of the list for his success. **Page 4, Lines 1-5**

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments in support of SB3156 SD1**. Linda Elento