



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

**Date:** 02/11/2022

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 Via Videoconference

**Committee:** House Higher Education &  
Technology

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Interim Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 1833 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

**Purpose of Bill:** Requires the University of Hawaii to establish in each county, K-12 expanded teaching cohort programs for students who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in education. Requires interim reports prior to the regular sessions of 2023, 2024, and 2025, and a final report prior to the regular session of 2026. Repeals 12/31/26.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1833, requiring the University of Hawaii to establish expanded teaching cohort programs for students pursuing undergraduate degrees in education.

The expansion of teacher preparation programs in conjunction with the Department's high school education academies, internships, stipend opportunities, and targeted recruitment efforts will help to increase the pipeline of local teachers necessary to stabilize the Department's workforce.

Toward these efforts, the Department has worked closely with Hawaii's educator preparation programs through the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC), established under Section 304A-1202, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to encourage capacity building as outlined in the TECC's five-year strategic plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1833.





# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education and Technology  
Friday, February 11, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

By  
Nathan Murata, Dean  
College of Education  
And  
Michael Bruno, PhD  
Provost  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 1833 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Clark, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1833, relating to the University of Hawai'i system to establish in each county, K-12 expanded teaching cohort programs for students who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in education.

The University of Hawai'i, College of Education (COE) is committed to establishing an expanded cohort program. While the majority of COE programs are online and delivered statewide, we know that expanding our offerings is critical to building capacity on the neighbor islands and to increase the pipeline of “grow our own” educators. The COE will also work closely with the other Colleges at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), the Hawai'i Department of Education, and all UH system campuses in order to streamline programs for students pursuing undergraduate degrees in education and to stabilize the Department of Education's workforce.

The Dean of the University of Hawai'i COE and the Superintendent of the Department of Education serve as co-chairs of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC), established under HRS §304A-1202. This Committee, with representatives from all teacher preparation programs in Hawai'i, have devoted efforts to addressing the teacher shortage and building the teacher workforce in Hawai'i.

The College of Education, UHM, provides programs to students on all islands to become teachers; however, not all licensure options are available. The COE is supportive of expanding our program options to address the K-12 shortages; the COE would also support expanding this legislation to include preparing PK teachers, as well.

Thank you for opportunity to provide testimony.