

Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

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

Date: 02/22/2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: CR 211 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: SB 2188, SD1 RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the Department of Education's Community School for Adults program. Appropriates an unspecified amount of funds. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2188, SD1 to establish a workforce readiness program within the Hawaii Community Schools for Adults.

The McKinley and Waipahu Community Schools for Adults, as recipients of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant, have been collaboratively working with the Workforce Development Council, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and the Department of Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, along with employers in the job market and the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, to develop an inter-agency workforce development program for youth and adults with an expressed interest in pursuing trades and other employment opportunities. The appropriation and positions provided in SB 2188, SD1 will enhance this work.

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

The Department is appreciative of the budgetary appropriation included in this measure to continue its workforce readiness programs and requests that any additional funding does not affect the Department's top budget priorities to restore funds that were reduced as a result of the fiscal fallout from COVID-19 and the funding for existing budget shortfalls that were included in the Department's supplemental budget request. Without those funds, the Department will face severe constraints on its ability to continue to promote equity and access to an array of educational opportunities and needed resources and support for all students and schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2188, SD1.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2188, S.D. 1

February 22, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference

RELATING TO SCHOOLS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2188, S.D. 1, adds a new section to Chapter 302A, HRS, to establish a Workforce Readiness Diploma Program within the Department of Education's Community School for Adults Program. The bill also establishes 2.00 full-time equivalent positions and appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 for the purposes of this measure.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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 16, 2022

Testimony in Strong Support of SB2188, SD1

Measure Title: Relating to Schools
Report Title: Department of Education; Adult Education; Workforce Development Diploma
Description: Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the department of education adult community schools program. Appropriates funds.

McKinley Community School for Adults strongly supports SB2188 to establish a workforce diploma program within the Department of Education's Community School for Adults program. This workforce readiness diploma program will provide additional employment opportunities for our students.

While our school's 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.

Hawaii Labor Market Dynamics reports that 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 are 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 SB2188.

Sincerely,

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

Helen H. Sanpei, Principal

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 3:40:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kevin Ginoza	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults- Wahiawa Campus	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB2188. I have worked with at-risk youth and adults for almost 20 years and am always looking for ways to help them become positive members of their community. The Waipahu Community School for Adults has a large population of students who do not graduate from high school and some who do not have the ability to obtain a High School equivalency. Our mission is to help our students achieve their goal(s) whether it is a high school equivalency, college, and/or career readiness. This bill will help to support our workforce development diploma program and give students who are working towards or cannot obtain high school equivalency, a viable option to become career-ready. Those who do not have options have the potential to become a problem in the community and society as a whole. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB2188.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 9:17:47 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lance Jyo	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB 2188 SD1. As a WIOA Mandated Partner, McKinley CSA (Adult Education) is tasked to provided a comprehensive array of services to include educational support programs (Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency Credential, Workforce Development Diploma, etc.), employability training and access to services provided by community, business, armed forces, workforce partners. This also includes support to those currently incarcerated (GED preparation and testing, employabilty and soft skills training). SB 2188 SD1 enables CSA's to continue to provide our Workfroce Readiness Efforts. Mahalo.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 10:08:35 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cailee Estes	Testifying for MCSA-Kauai Campus	Support	No

Comments:

We feel that it is so important to be able to offer the workforce readiness diploma program here at the McKinley Community School for Adults- Kauai. We are passionate about creating opportunities for all of our students and helping them grow and this program allows us to do so. By providing this opportunity, we will be able to continue to support the communities we love.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 10:41:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Janna Cochran	Testifying for MCSA - Maui	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 11:00:53 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Pat Anbe	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

SB2188

Dear Committee on Ways and Means,

On behalf of the Waipahu Community School for Adults and our students, I am writing in support of SB2188

As a mandatory partner of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), the Hawaii Adult Schools are tasked with the very important mission of helping our students obtain employment or further their education.

Currently, the adult schools receive a limited amount of State General Funds to cover the operational costs of our campuses on every island in the State. For many years we have maintained our salaried positions with these funds, but have not been able to create a new, unique salaried position that would help develop career and work opportunities for our students. The extra positions afforded to us in this Bill will allow us to create unique and innovative educational opportunities for our students to enter or reenter the workforce.

Thank you for allowing this time to provide testimony in support of SB2188.

Sincerely,

Pat Anbe, Principal

Waipahu Community School for Adults

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 11:47:52 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Eric Balinbin	Testifying for MCSA Maui	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill wholeheartedly. We need training programs for all of our students so that they can become employable, earn a living wage and provide for their family. An investment in education positively affects generations!

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 12:52:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Raden Nagamine	Testifying for Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

SB2188 provides alternative opportunities for the high school students in Hawaii.

Committee on Ways & Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith Agaran, Vice Chair

Dear Honorable Senators:

My name is Diane Omura, an ELL (English Language Learner) teacher at the McKinley Community School for Adults on Maui, writing in support of SB2188. This bill will establish a workforce readiness program within the DOE's Adult Community School programs. Our students will gain both job specific technical knowledge and softskills to increase their employability upon completion of our program. This will prepare our adult learners for a successful entry and maintenance in Hawaii's workforce.

I strongly urge for the support of SB 2188 and ask you to pass this out of committees.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Diane Omura

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 2:19:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Erin Raguindin	Testifying for Maui Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Test Administrator with the Maui Community School for Adults on Molokai and I ask that you please vote in support of SB2188. Molokai would especially benefit from a Workforce Readiness Program as many of our young adults don't have the resources to go to college on other islands or on the mainland. We all know that school isn't for everyone, and yet our Molokai residents need to gain the skills needed to be successful in the workforce. Funding a program that would enable students to earn apprenticeship certificates or other certificates recognized by the workforce would allow them to gain employment without the need to attend costly colleges and universities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 2:32:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sharon Rokuta	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

As a teacher at McKinley Community School for Adults, I am in full support of Senate Bill 2188.

With these programs that are being implemented, the students have shown their potential to be contributing members of our community and state. Thank you.



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) 594-0540

February 17, 2022

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Ways and Means Chairperson
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Ways and Means Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of SB2188, Relating to Education

Honorable Senator Dela Cruz and Honorable Senator Keith-Agaran:

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 2188 relating to the establishment of a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates.

Presently, the Community School for Adults (CSA) services a variety of clientele in the community from juvenile age individuals pursuing their high school equivalency (HSE) certification to senior citizens who are looking to improve their English language competency for personal development or to bring forth more job opportunities. Through our various services the CSA supports individuals to get workforce ready through our programs whether it is through credentials or via classroom instruction to build work related skills. Thus, the establishment of a workforce readiness program would further support our clientele by helping to empower and prepare them for the workforce, while also supporting them in their desire to better themselves and contribute to a more educated community. Further, the establishment of a workforce readiness program provides an important community service that supports students of all ages and backgrounds. Although helping an individual attain their high school equivalency or contributing to an individual's growth in the English language are important outcomes that contribute to the workforce, the establishment of a workforce readiness program will further provide individuals with an additional resource to support them in their desire to grow, improve, and better oneself. This aspect is particularly important considering the state of our economy and job opportunities due to the pandemic.

The establishment of a workforce readiness program via SB 2188 will allow our campuses to further service employers and the overall community to develop individuals occupationally which contributes to a better community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark T. Nakamura".

Mark T. Nakamura,
Vice Principal, MCSA

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2022 11:59:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Rhys Ragasa	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults - Moanalua	Support	No

Comments:

As ELA Coordinator for the Moanalua campus, bill SB2188 has my full support. It is crucial for us as adult educators that we help integrate our students into society by providing them the necessary tools to acquire jobs and higher levels of education. This bill will ensure that students who are ready to take that step will be able to make the necessary connections, receive the proper education, and have the support required to further their careers. Ultimately, this bill has the students' best interest in mind and is the epitome of what adult education stands for.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Osa Tui, Jr.
President

Logan Okita.
Vice President

Lisa Morrison
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RE: SB 2188, SD1 - RELATING TO SCHOOLS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports SB 2188, SD1** relating to schools. This bill establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the Department of Education's Community School for Adults program. Appropriates an unspecified amount of funds.

HSTA agrees that 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 by industry for employment after graduation or completion of the community school for adults workforce preparation program.

Across the country, as well as in Hawai'i, a majority of job openings are for positions that do not require a college or post-graduate degree. Data from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations tells us that more than 70% of jobs in the state don't require more than a high school diploma.

This kind of vocational training, currently called career and technical education (CTE), should be a viable alternative to college, which becomes increasingly cost-prohibitive with each passing year. According to a national study, only 25% of job-seekers said they received vocational training in high school, while more than 40% saying they wished they had received more.

This bill will allow that more than 40% of Hawai'i high school graduates, who do not want to attend a four-year college, to have more opportunities to receive industry-based skills and certifications required to join the competitive 21st century job market. By creating this workforce development program, appropriating funds and staffing, the legislature will make a strong statement about their support for our students, both young and old.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support this bill**.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2022 10:51:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan S. Hayashi	Testifying for Workforce Development Council	Support	No

Comments:

To: Senator Donavan Dela Cruz, Chair Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair WAM, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

From: Alan S. Hayashi, Chairman Workforce Development Council (WDC)

Subject: **SB2188SD1 RELATING TO SCHOOLS**

The purpose of this Act is to establish a workforce readiness program within the department of education's community school for adult program.

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair ????, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

I am Alan Hayashi, Chairman of the Workforce Development Council (WDC), and am testifying on behalf of the WDC, in **strong support of SB2188SD1.**

We also respectfully suggest inserting language enabling an internship program for students and adults desiring to “test” their chosen vocational area for longer term employment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 1:51:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Andy Ngo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB 2188 that will help the Vietnamese community that I belong to here in Kalihi. We need this program to ehlp my family and friends get a job. I support this bill so that we can help others in my community. Thank you

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 1:57:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Thomas Pangilinan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2188 which establishes with the Department of Education community schools for adults a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn certifications and diplomas that would help them get a job, especially in today's society. As a retired educator I have experienced the need for such programs for a very long time and see this an an opportunity to help our struggling communities.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 2:35:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Matt Wong	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this measure of building internal capacity within the adult schools in order to increase Hawaii's workforce skills. Educating our fellow citizens is the most effective and logical way to end the cycle of poverty, and empower generations to come.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/16/2022 2:55:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sheldon Tawata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha and thank you again for the opportunity to submit a testimony for this very important and much needed bill, SB 2188 SD1. As a professional in higher education, I feel it is critical that we provide people with as many options to a better quality of life. That means every post-high opportunity should be viewed and treated with the same level of attention and resources to back it up. The Workforce Readiness Program not only creates more forward thinking opportunities but provides another option for our workforce to grow. By providing more resources to the Community School for Adults, it allows the State of Hawai'i to help individuals make mindful steps in their professional and personal journey. The Community School for Adults has always played an important role in the State of Hawai'i and any additional resources will only help them expand their reach. I strongly support SB 2188 SD1.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 9:47:46 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Aaron Takeba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of this Bill. I live in Waianae along with other family members, neighbors, and friends. Many of them are unemployed and in need of jobs. This program will certainly help many of them find a job. Please help us. Thank you.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 9:51:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Aukai Pia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this Bill because the adult education Work Readiness program will help us get ready for jobs that are available. McKinley Community School for Adults has campus on every island and is very accessible. I am now attending classes to improve my math so that I can join the Carpenter's apprenticeship program.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 9:56:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dean Sakmoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a part time teacher working for the McKinley Community School for Adults and I have taught students in various programs and I know that these programs have provided a positive results for these students. I am confident that students who participate in a program such as the Work Force Development program will become a productive and contributing members of society. Many of these students just need a chance to learn, develop, and be offered an opportunity.

mahalo,

Dean Sakamoto

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 10:00:04 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ryan Sanpei	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Ryan Sanpei and I am in support of SB2188 SD1.

The one thing that I hear from the Workforce time and time again is that the new hires are not "ready to work". Many of the employees apply with the necessary educational requirements, but lack the soft and hard skills that are necessary for being a good employee. SB2188 will help to support many students by providing them with the opportunity to receive the necessary entry level training for employment throughout the State.

Thank you for your time!

Ryan

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 10:30:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
KURT GINOZA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To Whom it May concern,

I fully support this bill. This bill will help our residents with options to increase employability in our state. Meeting the needs of our adult learners and potential workers require support of these innovative measures.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 10:37:38 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tina Matsuo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB2188

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

In support of SB2188

Relating to Schools

Dear Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and Members,

I am testifying in support of SB2188. Please support this bill as it will benefit both of our Waipahu and McKinley Community School for Adults students with an opportunity for workforce readiness.

Thank you for your time and consideration to support SB2188.

Sincerely,

Tina Matsuo

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 12:20:40 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kylee Yamamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB2188 and its mission to help provide support and education for students who are entering the employment industry upon graduating/completing an adult school program.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 12:59:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Scot Seo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this Bill and the effort of the community schools to prepare students for their career pipeline with the necessary skills and certifications required for entry into the workforce. Students on Kauai, Maui, the island of Hawaii are remotely located and in need of the services like this to ensure that they can secure jobs to support themselves and their families.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 1:54:00 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jensen Apana	Testifying for Department of Education	Support	No

Comments:

I support the Act to establish a workforce readiness program within the department of education's community school for adults program. As a current HSE teacher, I believe there should be an alternative for those that have trouble attaining their selected HSE. With the understanding of a program that will implement supports a career-ready workforce, I feel it would provide current and future learners the opportunity to achieve success towards adulthood.

Mahalo!

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 3:35:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Amie Yee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of SB2188 because we need to support our learning adults in the community. We need to support our adult ed programs to help adults become contributing and productive citizens. I recently taught a family literacy class, which was a collaboration between MCSA and the school, and it was amazing to see the benefits and positive effects on the families. Parents were able to engage and participate in their children's learning as they gained reading and computer literacy skills. In addition, after the class, one of my parents registered to take a parapro assessment at MCSA (to apply for an educational assistant job) and another enrolled in another class at MCSA to be become a substitute teacher. Thank you for hearing my story and for supporting SB2188 bill so our adults can be afforded with such opportunities to learn and improve their lives.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 3:42:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michele Fukumoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of SB2188. Establishing a workforce readiness diploma program within the Department of Education’s Community School for Adults program will benefit many students across the state. Establishing a workforce readiness program through partnerships and collaborative efforts with the department of labor and industrial relations, workforce development council, American Job Centers, local business, hotels, employers, apprenticeship programs, community colleges, and other public and private sectors would provide greater opportunities for students to gain basic academic skills, employability and work readiness skills to be career-ready for the workforce. Current programs to include the Workforce Development Diploma and Career Foundations program affords students sixteen years or older without a high school diploma or its equivalent to gain the necessary skills for employment. Gainful employment would allow these individuals to provide for themselves and their families, giving them a sense of purpose, confidence, independence, and the ability to be productive members and positive contributors to the community that we live in. SB2188 appropriates needed funding in our efforts to implement the workforce readiness program. Both CSA’s (McKinley and Waipahu) would greatly benefit from this bill in its efforts to implement the workforce readiness programs and offer greater opportunities for students to earn pre-apprentice certificates and other industry recognized certifications for employment and careers in the workforce. Thank you very much for considering my written testimony in support of SB2188.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 5:29:12 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lehua Brown	Testifying for Department of Education - Honolulu District	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha pumehana kakou,

As an educator, parent, and community member, I support SB2188 which will benefit our young adults as well as our community. Providing young adults a readiness workforce program within the DOE's community school for adults program as well as the needed personnel will help to expand opportunities to train and retain our up and coming workforce and compete in a global community. If passed, this gives our adult community members the opportunity to develop/build specialized knowledge and skills through this program so that they may compete and secure a job/career for their future besides becoming contributing members of society.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Lehua Brown

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/17/2022 9:02:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sarmina Scales	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Senate Bill 2188 because I know if it passes then my students will benefit by being able to earn more credentials/certificates related to work readiness, which in turn will give them an edge when looking for jobs. This is an important benefit for them since it will help make them more competitive candidates in the workforce.

February 18, 2022

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Deborah K. Miyao
Retired State of Hawaii Department of Hawaii Educational Specialist for Adult Education
and Acting Adult Basic Education State Director

RE: S.B. 2188
Hearing: Tuesday, February 22, 2022, Room CR 211 & Videoconference 10:00 AM

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Good Morning Senator Dela Cruz, Senator Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means. I am Deborah K. Miyao, a retired State of Hawaii Department of Education Educational Specialist in Adult Education and Acting Adult Basic Education State Director. I strongly support SB2188.

A workforce readiness diploma program, by Hawaii's Community Schools for Adults (CSAs), would highly benefit adults who are 16 years of age or older, out of school youth, and those who lack a high school diploma and/or basic skills. The CSAs would deliver a customized workforce readiness curriculum that would lead to a skilled workforce by offering academic career preparation and job readiness skills with a potential for pre-apprenticeships. An appropriation of State funds earmarked for a workforce readiness diploma program is seriously needed for the development, implementation, and coordination of a workforce readiness diploma program for Hawaii's adult learners.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit a written testimony for SB2188.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2022 5:58:31 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
dorothy hatori	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Friday 18, 2022

2:00pm

SB2188 in SUPPORT – Relating to Schools

This bill aims to establish a workforce readiness program within the department of education's community school for adults' program.

I strongly support this measure as it would benefit young adults who are struggling to succeed in the current education system, and who are working to obtain a GED. I know the struggle is difficult because most of these young adults don't have many opportunities, even after receiving their GED. My son received his GED in 2019 but after the program, the only support offered was creating a resume and there were limited jobs available to him because of limited skills. I feel this bill would help to empower more young adults by giving them a chance to make a decent living wage in one of the most expensive places in America.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Leina'ala Hatori Student, University of Hawaii, Mānoa MSW Behavioral Mental Health.
dhatori@hawaii.edu

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2022 11:35:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
SuAnne Kim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill SB2188.

My name is SuAnne Kim and I teach Basic English Skills to Adult English Learners at McKinley Community School for Adults.

I fully support this measure, as establishing a workforce readiness program will provide opportunities for adult students to learn English and work towards earning an associate degree, workforce development diploma or certificate, and join the workforce in our community. In my experience, these adult learners are eager to learn English and become contributing members of our local community. By supporting this bill, adult learners will be able to gain skills that will place them in an appropriate employment within their skill set.

Please vote in support of Senate Bill SB 2188. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

SuAnne Kim

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2022 1:19:22 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ann Choi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Many of my students are English Language Learners who need to improve their English skills in order to gain employment. By passing SB2188, we will be able to provide these and other adult students with the educational programs and tools to be successful. It would benefit not only the students' families, but also our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to give my testimony.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2022 2:25:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jacquelyn R Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2022 1:38:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dane Yonamine	Testifying for McKinley Community School	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2188. Community Schools provide adult and high school students GED, English language, college, and workforce preparedness courses. Such courses provide opportunities for career advancement, college preparation, workforce preparedness, and personal growth.

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

RE: SB 2188, SD1 – Relating to Schools

Tuesday 22, 2022

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee

SB 2188, SD1 relating to schools, which establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the Department of Education's Community School for Adults program is a positive legislation which I, Laverne Moore, special education teacher at McKinley High School supports.

A workforce readiness program would ensure that students learn skills and earn credentials required by industry for employment after graduation or completion of the community school for adult's workforce preparation program.

This is an alternative means of giving our high schools students the opportunity of securing employment for a number of them learn by seeing and doing and our existing academic curriculum is not addressing their ways of learning.

This program is a second chance for our students who are potential drop outs or more importantly, a means of keeping our students off the pipeline to prison and become a productive member of our community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit my written testimony and support this bill for our students who will be able to benefit from a workforce readiness program.

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2022 10:35:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Shelby Hamamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members,

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in favor of SB2188. The Workforce Readiness Program will equipt students in basic job readiness skills and earn credentials for employment. Please support SB2188. Thank you!

LATE

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2022 11:32:32 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Robert Ginlack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

After a very difficult and disruptive period of suffering from the affects of covid-19, we need to become more proactive and creative in providing programs that will ensure that students leaving the system are prepared to enter the job markt.

After reading S.B. 2188, there is a continuing need for the high schools, adult community schools, community colleges and other employers in the community to support the workforce development council toward the continuous implementation of the workforce preparation program.

We all know how difficult it was during the pandemic getting students involved in the various programs offered. I strongly believe that this is the time we we must implement S.B. 2188 to kick-start the many programs that will help our graduates and non-graduates find employment.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2022 8:45:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
J.Leong	Testifying for McKinley CSA - Moanalua Campus	Support	No

Comments:

As a 20 year employee in adult education, I fully support Bill 2188. I feel the program will contribute to providing the State of Hawaii with a qualified and able workforce.

LATE

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2022 9:19:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Bethany O'Hara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Subject: SB2188, SD1 RELATING TO SCHOOLS

Date: February 22, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: Room 211 & videoconference

Position: IN SUPPORT

My name is Bethany O'Hara, and I am an individual testifying in favor of SB2188, SD1, which aims to collaborate with the Department of Education's Community School for Adults to establish a Workforce Readiness Program. This measure would open up new employment opportunities for students in the program. There are several reasons students do not complete high school and carry on to higher education, including (but not limited to) economic disadvantages, disabilities, houselessness, language barriers, and unstable home lives.

As an individual who works with adults who have previously been incarcerated, I see the many barriers to finding employment after leaving a correctional facility. Although many jobs accept a

high school diploma, several individuals never finished high school. I firmly believe that completing a workforce readiness program would provide adults with the necessary skills and qualifications to find employment and become financially independent and decrease the likelihood of recidivism.

I believe the implementation and funding for this Workforce Readiness Program will have both short-term and long-term benefits for Hawaii residents, their families, and the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Bethany O'Hara

SB-2188-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2022 5:57:24 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2022 10:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Amelia G. Jodar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Members of the Hawaii State Legislature WAM Committee:

Aligning a workforce readiness program would ensure that students learn skills and earn credentials required by industry for employment after completion of the community school for adults workforce preparation program. This program will also benefit those students who are in correctional settings, helping them to be more ready for employment and be more successful in their re-entry.

I support SB2188 SD1. Thank you.

Amy Jodar