



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

Date: 02/04/2022

Time: 03:05 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Interim Superintendent Keith Hayashi
Hawaii State Department of Education

Title of Bill: SB 2928, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a working group to study and prepare an implementation plan for agricultural career pathways and report to the legislature. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of SB 2928, SD1, but respectfully provides comments as the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathway is already being implemented in high schools through the Department's Career and Technical Education program.

The Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathway prepares students to serve in high-wage and in-demand jobs as highly skilled and future-focused members of the workforce. Schools can choose to offer the following Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs of study, which were created to meet the needs of Hawaii's agriculture sectors as well as future workforce needs:

- Agriculture and Food Production Business;
- Animal Systems;
- Food Systems; and
- Natural Resources Management.

These programs of study facilitate post-secondary matriculation at the community colleges and universities within the University of Hawaii System. To ensure Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources alignment to post-secondary and workforce needs, a Pathway Advisory Council has been formed to advise on the standards associated with

each course offered in the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathway. The Pathway Advisory Council is composed of industry professionals, post-secondary instructors, secondary teachers, and an administrator from the post-secondary or secondary level. The new Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs of study will be available for schools to implement in School Year 2022-2023.

The Department has implemented the Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathway; created Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources programs of study; and formed an Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources Pathway Advisory Council to advance the Department's workforce development efforts and support Hawaii's economic development and sustainability goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2928, 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 COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION
AND HIGHER EDUCATION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2928, S.D. 1

**February 14, 2022
3:10 p.m.
Room 229 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO EDUCATION

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

Senate Bill No. 2928, S.D. 1, establishes a working group to study and prepare an implementation plan for agricultural career pathways; appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 for the University of Hawai'i; and requires a report to the Legislature.

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.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education and
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Monday, February 14, 2022, at 3:10 p.m.

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

SB 2928 SD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chairs Kidani and Kim, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill (SB) 2928 Senate Draft (SD) 1 relating to Education. The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the bill to establish a working group to study and develop an implementation plan for career pathways in the agricultural sector.

UH recognizes that agriculture is a critical sector for the state. UH President David Lassner identified agriculture and food among the key economic sectors that UH must contribute for a post-pandemic Hawai'i. UH will contribute through its leadership in workforce development, education and research excellence in its programs which provide education and training statewide.

The working group convened by SB 2928 SD1 will prepare an implementation plan for career pathways from high school to postsecondary education and training that prepares young people for employment in the agricultural sector and to meet present and future workforce needs. The working group will identify current initiatives such as the Leeward Community College and Leilehua Complex Area project to align an agriculture curriculum from elementary school through Leeward Community College's Wahiawa Value-Added Product Development Center; Leeward Community College and UH West O'ahu's partnership with MA'O Farms and Leeward Coast high schools, and Hawai'i Community College's Ka'u Dream partnership with Ka'u High School.

UH supports SB 2928 SD1. UH will collaborate with the State of Hawai'i Department of Education and other stakeholders for review of prior research and plans, to consider workforce needs, and to develop plans for career pathways.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 14, 2022

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

TESTIMONY ON SB 2928, SD1
RELATING TO EDUCATION

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference
3:10 PM

Aloha Chairs Kidani and Kim, and Members of the Committees:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau supports SB 2928, SD1, which establishes a working group to study and prepare an implementation plan for agricultural career pathways and report to the legislature.

Developing and maintaining an agricultural workforce is a vital component for the future of Hawaii's agriculture sector. A trained workforce with various skills is necessary to any agricultural operation. This need has to be addressed along with generating interest in our youth to pursue various careers and to become our future leaders in Hawaii agriculture.

It is commonly known that the average age of a farmer in Hawaii is approximately 60 years old. For agriculture to be sustainable, and to produce more local crops we, as a society, must cultivate the next generation of farmers, ranchers, scientists, inspectors, food producers, field technicians, natural resource managers, entrepreneurs.

The Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations undertook a series of facilitated meetings with farmers, ranchers, educators, and a diverse group of stakeholders across the state between 2007 and 2011 to address Ag Labor. The Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report was the result of the stakeholder meetings. The report made several recommendations, of which several common themes emerged. #1 of those themes was "Increasing youth education and training".

In 2013, the Hawaii State Legislature saw fit to establish the Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board. This Board convenes, in part, to execute the recommendations of the Hawaii Agriculture Skill Panel Report. This board established a program by which educators and school administrators could be exposed and incentivized to adopt existing broad-based agricultural curriculums. This was an important step toward the future of agriculture in Hawaii.

In 2015, Hawaii State Senate Resolution No. 80 requested that the UH-Manoa College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) develop an “implementation strategy and recommendations for the creation of a statewide coordinated framework of support for P–20 agriculture education, including any proposed legislation.” SR 80 sought to build upon the expertise of CTAHR and create a coordinated effort to address Ag education.

The proposed Working Group established in this measure will continue to implement strategies developed by the Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board and P-20 Working Group by preparing an implementation plan for career pathways that will connect students to career exploration and development for employment in the agricultural sector.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important subject.

SB-2928-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 12:28:53 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/14/2022 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

aloha nui kākou,

I support this effort to provide our schools with agricultural learning and pathways. We MUST provide them the learning and education to begin and more importantly, ensure that they have ‘āina and wai that they will be able to use these skills towards, pushing us further into food sovereignty. Please support our agricultural future, we need it.

Mahalo nui,

Kimeona Kane