



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, April 6, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

By
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SB 3374 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill (SB) 3374 Senate Draft (SD) 1 House Draft (HD) 1 relating to the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC). The University of Hawai'i (UH) strongly supports the bill to support workforce development.

Unique among UH campuses, UHCCs' mission includes workforce development and personal development for career mobility. UHCCs take seriously its responsibility to provide a trained workforce, offering occupational, technical and professional courses and programs to prepare students for immediate employment and career advancement. Through its seven campuses and six education centers throughout the state, UHCCs provide accessible and affordable options for education and training through its degree and certificate programs and non-credit workforce training programs. UHCCs offer a range of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs including healthcare, human services, skilled trades, business, technology and agriculture. Last year, in its degree and certificate programs, UHCCs served 8,512 students in CTE majors, offered 2,343 CTE classes and awarded 2,678 degrees and Certificates of Achievement. In its non-credit workforce training programs, UHCCs provided nearly 16,000 training opportunities, some leading to industry-based certifications including federally recognized Registered Apprenticeship Programs for 3,517 apprentices in the trades and healthcare.

UHCCs is committed to meeting the state's workforce needs. This includes aligning UHCCs' CTE programs with current and forecasted needs for the skills and certifications as well as the number of trained residents for workforce needs and employment opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3374, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

**April 6, 2022
1:30 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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

Senate Bill No. 3374, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 23 for the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges workforce development program.

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.