



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology  
Friday, March 18, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

By  
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University of Hawai'i System

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

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill (SB) 3374 SD1 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 are committed to meeting the state's workforce needs. This includes aligning UHCCs' CTE programs with current and forecasted needs for 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 HIGHER EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 3374, S.D. 1

**March 18, 2022  
2:00 p.m.  
Room 309 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, 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.