



**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

**‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII**

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology  
Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

By

Debora Halbert

Vice President for Academic Strategy  
University of Hawai'i System

HR 143/HCR 141 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONVENE A  
WORKING GROUP TO CREATE A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
MARITIME COLLEGE AND TO ESTABLISH A MARITIME COLLEGE

Chair Perruso, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HR 143/HCR 141. These resolutions urge the University of Hawai'i to convene a working group to create a plan for the establishment of a maritime college and to establish a maritime college.

The University of Hawai'i (UH) agrees with the observations of the resolutions regarding the many advantages establishing a maritime college would bring to Hawai'i. The UH System strategic plan includes support for employment in areas of State need and efforts to provide excellent employment opportunities for UH graduates. Thus, we would be happy to participate in a working group to investigate the feasibility of standing up a maritime college in Hawai'i under the auspices of the UH System.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



# Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific



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HCR 141 Support Testimony

March 21, 2023

The Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific – Hawaii Region would like to convey our deepest support for HCR 141 (Companion 143) regarding a proposed Maritime College here in the State of Hawaii. Hawaii as an isolated Island Chain must rely heavily on goods and services shipped by way of sea, as they have for many decades... This demand has only increased and shows no data to contradict this trend. Maritime shipping plays a vital role in the lifeline of the Hawaii supply chain and its economy. This industry needs skilled, trained and USCG Qualified Mariners to crew these vessels. We have a current shortage of labor in many sectors, and our Maritime industry has not been immune to this hardship. Hawaii has deep rooted history with the ocean and its local people are naturally drawn to the water. It would only make sense that a State that relies so heavily on sea borne trade would provide the necessary higher education right here for it's citizens to be able to fill life long careers which provide living wages and job security.

Respectfully,

Capt. Michael S Anderson Jr.

IBU Hawaii – Regional Director

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Randy Perreira, President

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO  
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The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawai'i  
Hawai'i State House of Representatives  
Committee on Higher Education & Technology

Testimony by  
Hawai'i State AFL-CIO  
March 22, 2023

H.R. 143 / H.C.R. 141 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF  
HAWAII TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO  
CREATE A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
MARITIME COLLEGE AND TO ESTABLISH A  
MARITIME COLLEGE.

The Hawai'i State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 74 affiliate local unions and councils with over 68,000 members across both public and private sectors. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in **support** of H.R. 143 / H.C.R. 141.

Out of state maritime academies currently supply Hawai'i's maritime workforce needs. Creating a maritime career pathway from cradle to career will build Hawai'i's capacity to continue the seamless delivery of readily available goods in Hawai'i by Hawai'i workers. Hawai'i maritime workers are Hawai'i taxpayers whose income is part of Hawai'i's economy even while they are out to sea.

Maritime workers in Hawai'i must currently leave the state for maritime training in both licensed and unlicensed maritime career pathways. Establishing a maritime college in Hawai'i will enable Hawai'i to fulfill its own maritime workforce needs with students directly out of high school or with adults who are changing careers. The maritime college will also fulfill the need for ongoing professional development for both in-state and out-of-state mariners.

We appreciate your consideration of our testimony in **support** of H.R. 143 / H.C.R. 141.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Perreira".

Randy Perreira  
President

**HCR-141**

Submitted on: 3/20/2023 9:12:08 PM

Testimony for HET on 3/22/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Time to do away with maritime!!!