



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/14/2023

Time: 03:05 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0155 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes, and appropriates funds for, a Network Improvement Community Task Force to develop a K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teacher education degree for the University of Hawaii and report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds for the establishment of a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Entrepreneur-Resident at the University of Hawaii Maui College. Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Maui College's Office of International and Regional Partnerships for study abroad programs.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) respectively provides comments on SB 155 to develop a K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teacher degree program to address the shortage of qualified STEM teachers in Hawaii, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our recently adopted Board of Education Strategic Plan.

The Department notes that the work of the proposed task force, described in Part I of the measure, overlaps with the charge of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) established under Section 304A-1202, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Department recommends that this work be incorporated under the TECC with clearly defined roles and responsibilities for task force members.

As to Part II of this measure, the Department respectfully defers to the University of Hawaii system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 155.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 3:05 p.m.

By

Della Teraoka, Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Community
Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

SB 155 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 155, which establishes a Network Improvement Community Task Force to develop K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teacher education degree; appropriates funds for the establishment of a STEM Entrepreneur-Resident at the University of Hawai'i Maui College; and appropriates funds for University of Hawai'i Maui College's Office of International and Regional Partnerships for study abroad programs.

There is an extreme need for STEM teachers on Maui and throughout the state, and this bill aims to address this issue. Extending study abroad opportunities will enhance student learning at UH Maui College.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 155, as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 155.