



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
March 17, 2023

The Honorable Representative Amy A. Perruso, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education and Technology
The Thirty-Second Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Representative Perruso and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: SB391 SD2 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING.

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB391 SD2**, which Appropriates funds for the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges' workforce development programs. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

For the past decade, Hawaii has been at the bottom of the country for employing people with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). In recent years we have made strides as a state removing barriers to employment for individuals with I/DD by passing bills such as Ending minimum wage (Act 055, 2021) which ended the discriminatory practice of paying individuals with I/DD below our minimum wage laws in the state. Last year, we passed the Employment First Initiative (Act 308, 2022), committing to promote full integration of persons with a disability into the Hawai'i workforce.

This measure expands on that commitment by increasing opportunities for quality workforce education. Increased accessibility to training will promote a stronger workforce contribution from individuals with I/DD and can advance independence by increasing their ability to pursue decent employment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB391 SD2.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus".

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator



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

Date: 03/17/2023
Time: 03:35 PM
Location: 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Committee: House Higher Education &
Technology

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0391, SD2 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community
Colleges' workforce development programs. Effective 7/1/2050.
(SD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports Senate Bill (SB) 391, SD 2, which appropriates funds to support the workforce development programs of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges (UHCC).

The Department appreciates the Legislature's support in increasing access to Early College courses and workforce training opportunities for high school students. SB 391, SD 2 would increase support for UHCC courses that prepare students for the workforce through short-term training that leads to industry-recognized credentials in career and technical education fields and college degree programs in academic areas that are required for employment. Workforce training opportunities offered by UHCC have provided high school students with the knowledge and skills necessary for employment. Priorities for workforce training for those seeking employment immediately after high school are in high-demand areas and entry-level employment with opportunities to advance to high-wage jobs. Additional funding will increase access to these programs and opportunities, enabling high school graduates to secure employment and to positively contribute to Hawaii's economy whether they pursue college (including technical education), military, and/or employment after high school.

SB 391, SD 2 supports Goal 1.3 of the newly approved Board of Education Strategic Plan: "All students graduate high school prepared for college and career success and community and civic engagement."

The Department respectfully requests that the passage of this bill not adversely affect the funding the Department currently receives for postsecondary and workforce development opportunities and the priorities of the Department's Board of Education-approved budget.

The Department defers to UHCC with regards to the use of the funds appropriated in this bill.

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology
March 17, 2023, at 3:35 p.m.

By

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

SB 391 SD2 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING

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

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 391 SD2, which would utilize the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC) as a channel to assist in stimulating and revitalizing Hawai'i's economic recovery through the colleges' workforce development programs.

Unique to the University, 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 7,623 students in CTE majors, offered 2,355 CTE classes and awarded 2,573 degrees and Certificates of Achievement. In its non-credit workforce training programs, UHCCs provided over 17,000 training opportunities, some leading to industry-based certifications including federally recognized Registered Apprenticeship Programs for 2,401 apprentices in the trades and healthcare.

As the UHCCs expand to serve students through Early College programs, this bill will provide needed resources to ensure all 7 community colleges can support high school students interested in gaining workforce skills through Early College. Early College offerings will be expanded to include credit-based and non-credit workforce training curriculum to move students into the workforce immediately after high school or to provide a faster track into credit Career & Technical Education degrees and certificates at the community colleges.

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.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 391 SD2, 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 391 SD2.



SB391 SD2
RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE
WORKFORCE TRAINING
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology

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Room 309

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB391 SD2, which would appropriate funds for the administration, training, personnel, and student support of the University of Hawai‘i’s Community Colleges’ workforce development programs

OHA wishes to emphasize, as the principal public agency in the State responsible for the performance, development, and coordination of programs and activities relating to Native Hawaiians,¹ that the majority of Native Hawaiian families, in Hawai‘i, are unable to make ends meet,² with 63% of Native Hawaiians reporting that they are finding it difficult to get by.³ Native Hawaiians have the lowest household income.⁴ Native Hawaiians have the highest poverty rates for individuals and families.⁵ Native Hawaiians make less money,⁶ with lower average earnings for both men and women.⁷ Native Hawaiians have the highest rate of using public assistance and homeless services.⁸ Native Hawaiians are overrepresented among the homeless in Hawai‘i.⁹ OHA is deeply concerned with Native Hawaiians being driven out of Hawai‘i by economic instability stemming from socio-political-economic upheaval, which has largely disconnected Native Hawaiians from their ‘āina for more than a century. Today, more Native Hawaiians live outside of the Hawaiian Islands, far beyond the boundaries of their own homeland.¹⁰

OHA strongly believes that with the continued support for university system programs that are geared toward workforce development in jobs and career-pathways that

¹ HRS §10-3.

² Aloha United Way / United for ALICE, *ALICE in Hawai‘i: 2022 Facts and Figures*, Nov. 2022, p.6.

³ Id. at 9.

⁴ Dept. of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, *Demographic, Social, Economic, and Housing Characteristics for Selected Race Groups in Hawaii*, Mar. 2018, p.3.

⁵ Id. at 13.

⁶ OHA Report, *Affordable Housing for Hawai‘i and Native Hawaiians: Exploring Ideas and Innovation*, Aug. 2020, p.10.

⁷ Dept. of Native Hawaiian Health, John A. Burns School of Medicine, *Assessment and Priorities for the Health and Well-Being in Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders*, 2020, p.12.

⁸ Id.

⁹ Partners In Care, *2022 Point In Time Count*, p.7.

¹⁰ “Estimates from the American Community Survey showed that in 2011, there were about 296,400 Native Hawaiians in Hawai‘i and about 221,600 on the continental U.S. Just a decade later, those numbers flipped. In 2021, there were about 309,800 Native Hawaiians in Hawai‘i and about 370,000 in other states,” Hawaii Public Radio, *More Native Hawaiians Flock to mainland cities and leave Hawai‘i*, Jan. 23, 2023, *citing high costs*, citing the US Census Bureau’s American Community Survey 2021.



SB391 SD2
RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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pay livable and prevailing wages, and which contribute to the all-around equitable and responsible advancement of society – especially here in Hawai‘i – Native Hawaiians and other residents who consistently face inequities and disparities, may have the means to elevate their status without the extra burden of having to swim against such strong currents.

OHA appreciates the opportunity to support SB391 SD2. Mahalo nui loa.

March 17, 2023

The Honorable Amy Perruso, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education and Technology
State Capitol of Hawai'i, Room 444
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Chairwoman Perruso and Members of the Committee:

ACT **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 391**, which invests in the students, workers, and workforce of Hawai'i by appropriating funds for University of Hawai'i Community Colleges Workforce Training.

We agree that, as SB 391 says: “programs that are designed to positively impact local employment pipelines and provide skills for students to succeed in jobs that pay not just the minimum wage, but a family—sustaining wage, are critical to rebuilding the post—pandemic economy and developing Hawai'i's future workforce.”

Expanding student's ability to pursue workforce training, and to take assessments that lead to a nationally recognized career readiness certificate (NCRC) will provide students with a vehicle to certify their readiness for jobs in in-demand industries that pay the competitive wages necessary to remain at home and support healthy families, strong communities, and a thriving local economy.

Investing in students' opportunity to acquire workforce training and to certify their career readiness is a crucial step in strengthening the talent pipeline between emerging employees and the employers who base site selection and expansion decisions on the availability of a career-ready workforce. At ACT, we know this:

- (1) Because of our interactions with local employers who choose to recruit employees with an NCRC because of the cost savings they realize from tailoring their recruitment efforts to candidates that can certify their career readiness by earning an NCRC;
- (2) From a policy perspective, because 22 states currently leverage the NCRC at a statewide level for K-12, postsecondary education, adult education, or workforce and economic development: and
- (3) From an economic development perspective: *Site Selection* magazine cites the number of NCRCs earned in each state within the preceding year as one of the six factors that comprise its rankings of the states.

For these reasons, we **support SB 391** and its proposed investment in the students and workforce of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 391.

Stephanie Chavis Guillory
State Government Relations Director

State and Federal Programs

500 ACT Dr. | Iowa City, Iowa 52243-0168
mobile 225.288.0606 | stephanie.guillory@act.org www.ACT.org





The House Committee on Higher Education and Technology
March 17, 2023
3:35 PM
Room 309

RE: **SB 391, SD2, Relating to the University of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training Program**

Attention: Chair Amy Perruso, Vice Chair Jeanne Kapela and members of the Committee

The University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 391, SD2**, Relating to the University of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training Program.

The community college workforce training program provides practical experience focused on the skills and knowledge needed for a specific job, opening the door to gainful employment within a diverse range of occupations. Such training provides an alternative career path that does not rely upon for-credit college programs or degrees. This impactful program enables families to enter the workforce with practicable training that can be built upon to advance in the workplace and further educational opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian L. Fern
Executive Director
University of Hawaii Professional Assembly



Maui Hotel & Lodging
ASSOCIATION

Testimony of
Lisa H. Paulson
Executive Director
Maui Hotel & Lodging Association

House Committee on Higher Education and Technology
Senate Bill 391 SD2: Relating To The University Of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training
February 22, 2023, 10:00 am
Conference Room 211

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry for Maui County. We represent over 180 property and allied business members and 22,000 employees. **MHLA supports Senate Bill 391 SD2**, which appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community Colleges' workforce development programs.

Workforce Development and support are vital to our State's economic development. Expanding access to serve students through Early College programs will provide needed resources to ensure all seven community colleges can support high school students interested in gaining workforce skills.

This Bill provides the much-needed support and funding for creating a talent pipeline here at home.

MHLA supports Senate Bill 391 SD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE HIGHER EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 309
FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023 AT 3:35PM**

To The Honorable Representative Amy A. Perruso, Chair
The Honorable Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Higher Education & Technology,

**SUPPORT SB391 SD2 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY
COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING**

The Maui Chamber of Commerce supports SB391 SD1, which appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community Colleges' workforce development programs.

Workforce development is critical to further our State's economic development and diversification goals and our community colleges play an important role.

UH Community Colleges' often tailor workforce development programs to help train individuals to fill needed positions, like nurses. They also offer programs for high school students to enroll in early college programs and vocational training for those who do not want to pursue a 2- or 4-year degree. This funding is key to continue the important work of our UH Community Colleges.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share our **support of SB391 SD2**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Tumpap".

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.