



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
MCKINLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

634 PENSACOLA STREET, ROOM 216  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

Telephone: (808) 594-0540 FAX: (808) 594-0544

DATE: January 30, 2024

TO: Representative Justin Woodson, Chair House Committee on Education  
Representative Lisa Marten, Vice Chair Committee on Education  
And Members of the House Committee on Education

FROM: Helen H. Sanpei, Principal   
McKinley Community School for Adults

RE: HB 2242 Relating to Education

**POSITION: Strong Support**

During the 2022 Legislative session, the workforce readiness program was established by the Legislature through Act 261. This Act established a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for adult education students as well as high school students to earn Workforce Development diplomas or Career Foundations Certificates to ensure that these students acquire the necessary skills and credentials needed to become highly employable. Since then, McKinley Community School for Adults has successfully designed and implemented the Career Foundations curriculum that address the need for workforce preparation. In addition, an Entrepreneurship Program along with a Travel Guide training program is being designed with implementation scheduled for Summer 2024.

Currently, the program employs part time temporary teachers, that are at times transient. The program and students at McKinley Community School for Adults would benefit from full time teachers to expand and enhance the available offerings for workforce preparation and certification.

Also, McKinley Community School for Adults is partnering with the Kauhale homeless project to provide the Career Foundations certificate programs as well as GED certification utilizing appropriated Federal funds to minimize cost to participants. Plans are to provide the service to the Kauhale in Windward Oahu, Middle Street, Maui, and any future Kauhale's. This program will provide residents of these shelters the opportunity for education, employment and eventual transitioning into the community in which they reside. These resource teachers, in addition to servicing each of the campuses, would be assigned to coordinate workforce preparation programs with other related programs to facilitate successful implementation.

I am writing in strong support of HB 2242 that appropriates the necessary funds for four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) Career Foundations Certificate Program Teachers for McKinley Community School for Adults. The campuses that will be serviced, include Oahu, Maui, Lanai, Molokai, and Kauai. These teachers will serve as leads as well as instructors for the number of existing programs as well as expanding the service to other locations. Please support the need to develop a system that prepares a workforce with the skills valued by employers.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of HB 2242.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

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

**Date:** 02/01/2024

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 2242 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds for four full-time equivalent career foundations certificate program teachers for McKinley Community School for Adults.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2242.

The four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) career foundations certificate program teachers for the McKinley community school for adults are needed to successfully implement the purposes of the workforce readiness program established through Act 261, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.

The workforce preparation program provides opportunities for high school students and adult education students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, and other certificates to ensure they develop the skills and credentials needed to make them highly employable.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2242.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
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**Osa Tui, Jr.**  
President

**Logan Okita**  
Vice President

**Lisa Thompson**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Ann Mahi**  
Executive Director

## TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAII HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Item: **HB2242 - Relating to education**

Position: **Support**

Hearing: **February 1, 2024, 2:00 p.m., Conference Room 309**

Submitter: **Osa Tui, Jr. – President, Hawai'i State Teachers Association**

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association **supports** HB2242 which appropriates funds for four full time equivalent career foundations certificate program teachers for the McKinley Community School for Adults.

Act 261 (2022) was the right first step to establish the workforce readiness program at MCSA. The job needs to be finished, now, by allowing MCSA to properly staff those positions as we work towards generating highly employable graduates who will be contributing members of society.

Part-time, temporary hires are not a recipe for success in making the workforce readiness program at MCSA bear the fruits it was designed to accomplish. By converting the positions to full time teachers, MCSA will be more likely to find committed staff who are willing to stay long-term and grow the program even more - a true benefit for those who go through the program.

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 3:07:49 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                                | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Eric Balinbin       | McKinley Community School for Adults - Maui Campus | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

The funding for HB2242 is an absolute must. If you want to help our Adult Education students it is integral to fund this position. Think of how you got your job - probably from someone you know - even a referral. At the Adult School that person can serve as a conduit from employer to potential employee.

Sincerely,

Eric Balinbin

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 3:14:46 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lance Jyo           | McKinley Community<br>School for Adults<br>Moanalua Campus | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB2242. Appropriating funds for four full time Career Foundation teachers will provide MCSA with the support needed to equip adult students with the tools/skills necessary to be workforce ready.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 3:15:09 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Candace Saski       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

The opportunity of education for high school students and adults is very important especially in these hard economic times. Offering skills to help them enter the workforce will benefit businesses as well as individuals who are wanting to work and live in Hawaii.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 3:54:04 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kylee Yamamoto      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I support House Bill 2242 because it provides more support to the workforce readiness program, which helps students achieve their work readiness certificates and ensure they are career ready.



**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 3:56:53 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sheldon Tawata      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

My name is Sheldon Tawata, counselor at Kapi‘olani Community College and a long time partner with the McKinley Community School for Adults. I strongly support HB 2242.

It has been an honor and a privilege to be part of the McKinley Community School for Adults ‘ohana for many years. I see first hand how they provide students the opportunity to advance in their education thus allowing them to better support their families and their communities. As you all know, the struggle to fill employment vacancies continues to be a challenge therefore allocating funds to a full-time position with the McKinley Community School for Adults will help with the State’s push for a stronger employment pool.

We need more access points for folks to elevate their employment capabilities and HB 2242 will definitely help the State improve our workforce needs.

Thank you for the opportunity to share.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 4:12:04 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Mark T. Nakamura    | McKinley Community School for Adults | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

My name is Mark T. Nakamura and I am one of the Vice Principals for the McKinley Community School for Adults (MCSA). I am providing written testimony today to express my support for HB 2242 to appropriate funds for four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) Career Foundations Certificate Program teachers for McKinley community school for adults.

One of the primary missions of the MCSA is to support students in becoming work ready so they can positively contribute to our community and productively support themselves and their family. One avenue to prepare individuals for work is to teach them professional skills or what is also known as soft skills, which are skills that can help individuals to succeed in the workplace. Professional skills consists of skills such as communication, prioritization, punctuality, dependability, problem solving and critical thinking. However, as Professional Skills can be more challenging to learn due to their innate nature, it is important to have a program and structure to help impart these skills. As a result, the Career Foundations Curriculum was created to provide a program and structure to teach these important skills. However, as with any educational program, the curriculum is the foundation, but there is also the need for additional resources for implementation. Consequently, the funding of four (4) positions to support the Career Foundations Program is integral so that the Community Schools will have the means to effectively implement, support, oversee, monitor, and adjust the program as needed so that all participants at any campus can experience a consistent, structured, program that is implemented to fidelity and is able to be sustained effectively for the long term.

The need to support individuals to become work ready in Hawaii is becoming more critical and the Career Foundations Program would give these individuals the requisite skills needed to enter the workforce and serve as an inspiration to others for a better life, or even as a means to stretch and break out of their comfort zone to push themselves further.

I believe that the Career Foundations Program can be a means to a better quality of life. Education exercises one's mind and instills an appreciation of learning and the funding of four (4) positions to support the Career Foundations Program is the planting of a seed of opportunity that can grow and bring emotional, personal, financial, and work related success and stability to individuals in Hawaii for this current generation while serving as a bridge of sustainability and inspiration for future generations.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony with you today in support of HB 2242

Sincerely,

Mark Nakamura, Vice Principal

McKinley Community School for Adults

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 5:58:28 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Deborah Miyao       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

The State of Hawaii Department of Education Adult Education program's workplace literacy training programs will reach heightened levels of effectiveness with the assistance of dedicated full-time teachers.

I am in full support of HB2242

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 6:19:05 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Allen Wong   | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

**Dear Committee Members,**

**I am writing to express my strong support for the McKinley CSA workforce readiness program, an initiative designed to empower high school students and adult education participants with the essential skills and certifications needed to thrive in the workforce. As an instructor at McKinley CSA, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of this program on individuals and our community.**

**The workforce readiness program is a comprehensive initiative that addresses the critical gap between education and employment by providing practical training, career development resources, and industry-recognized certifications. By focusing on both high school students and adult education learners, we are committed to fostering a skilled and adaptable workforce that meets the evolving demands of our local economy.**

**Here are key reasons why I urge your continued support and investment in this vital program:**

**Holistic Skill Development:** The program goes beyond traditional education by emphasizing a combination of education and soft skills. Participants not only acquire knowledge but also develop essential interpersonal and problem-solving abilities, making them well-rounded and adaptable employees.

**Industry-Recognized Certifications:** The program ensures that participants earn valuable, industry-recognized certifications that enhance their employability. These certifications are aligned with current market needs, providing a competitive edge for individuals seeking employment in various sectors.

**Community Impact:** By equipping individuals with the skills and certifications needed for employment, the program contributes to the economic development of our community. A prepared and skilled workforce attracts businesses, stimulates local economies, and creates a positive cycle of growth.

**Diversity and Inclusion:** The program is designed to be inclusive, reaching both high school students and adults pursuing education later in life. This inclusivity promotes diversity in

**the workforce, fostering an environment where individuals of all backgrounds and experiences contribute to a vibrant and innovative workplace.**

**Success Stories: We have witnessed success stories of program participants securing gainful employment and advancing in their careers. These success stories highlight the program's effectiveness in transforming lives and building a foundation for sustained professional growth.**

**In conclusion, I urge you to support the McKinley CSA workforce readiness program through sustained funding and policy advocacy. By doing so, we can collectively invest in the future of our community, empowering individuals to achieve their full potential and ensuring a resilient, skilled workforce that contributes to the prosperity of our state.**

**Sincerely,**

Allen Wong

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:05:54 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aaron Takeba        | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I strongly support this Bill that will help our community.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:11:05 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Scot Seo            | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I am supporting this Bill because it has been proven to help adults in our community



**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:12:33 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Yoon Ok Won         | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I have witnessed the positive results of this program and support it entirely

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:13:52 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Andy Ngo            | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments: I support this bill

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:23:05 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Thomas Pangilinan   | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

MCSA's workforce readiness program is a program that exceeds traditional "schooling" and prepares those non-traditional students for the workforce by emphasizing a basic education as well as the required soft skills to be successful in the workplace. A college education is great but not all students are college bound. Hawaii needs to take care of those students who would be successful in the workplace through the career foundations program.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:27:07 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Eren Avegalio       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I am in support of HB 2242. There is a strong need for options to prepare students for the workforce. The workforce readiness program is a great option that allows students to earn a certificate that ensures they are ready for the workforce.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 7:42:45 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cary Miyashiro      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

There is a need for programs like the Career Foundarion Certificate to meet the needs of those with barriers to employment getting into a competitive workforce making livable wages. It is also, important to staff the various locations to support delivery of these life changing lessons. Thank you for your consideration.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 8:55:03 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>       | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Ryan Sanpei         | McKinley Community School | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Ryan Sanpei.

As a Workforce Coordinator for Adult Education, I am able to work in partnership with both the education system and workforce partners here in Hawaii. Through collaboration over the years, I've found one thing that everyone agrees on -- students need to be taught professional skills.

MCSA's Career Foundation Program is built upon the professional skills that are being requested by employers and school teachers. This program is currently being taught in High Schools and Adult Education Classes. The program is evolving and being requested by additional schools and teachers. All students in High School, Adult Education and College would benefit from learning skills that are being taught in this program.

The missing link to this program are teachers to help deliver this curriculum statewide. By having full time teachers, MCSA could help to collaborate with many other teachers in Hawaii to equip students with the foundations that our Hawaii workforce partners are so eagerly requesting.

Thank you for your time,

Ryan

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 10:27:34 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Shelby Hamamoto     | McKinley Community School for Adults | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members,

Please support HB2242 as it will enable McKinley Community School for Adults to continue to assist its students with learning critical workplace skills necessary to become valuable employees in the workforce.

Thank you for your support!

January 31, 2024

Hawaii State Legislature  
Education Committee

**RE: Testimony in Support of HB2242 Relating to Education: McKinley Community School for Adults; Career Foundations Certificate Program Teachers**

Chair Woodson and members of the Education Committee,

As a teacher for the last 20 years, and an entrepreneur, I would like to express my support for HB 2242 which would appropriate funds for four full-time career foundations certificate program teachers for adults.

These positions are crucial to meeting the growing continuing education needs of our island communities, and they will widen the opportunities for adults to re-tool and build new career foundations. Public adult education is an essential resource that deserves the kind of reasonable, effective investment that HB2242 can provide.

Thank you for your consideration and please vote to move HB2242 through committee.

Sincerely,

Lisa Uesugi



**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/30/2024 11:06:06 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michele Fukumoto    | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

**I am in support of House Bill 2242: McKinley Community School for Adults; Career Foundations Certificate Program Teachers; Appropriation: Expenditure Ceiling (\$) to appropriate funds for four full time (4.0 FTE) Career Foundations certificate teachers**

**The 4 full time Resource Teacher positions requested for McKinley, Moanalua, Farrington, Kauai, and Maui Campuses would allow for McKinley CSA to employ regular certificated personnel rather than to rely on part-time temporary teachers to implement valuable workforce preparation programs for high school and adult education students so that they are better prepared and ready for the workforce. Gainful employment would allow these individuals to provide for themselves and their families, giving them a sense of purpose, confidence, independence, and the ability to be productive members and positive contributors to society.**

**Thank you for your kind consideration in support of HB 2242.**

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 8:09:40 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Stacey Roberts      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I fully support HB 2242 that provides for a full-time teacher (4.0FTE) to support the a workforce readiness program in the state that would operate under the Community Schools for Adults. Given the widely acknowledged need for a robust workforce in the state of Hawai‘i, and recognizing that preparation for such a workforce must extend beyond the scope of a high school diploma or college degree, I believe this bill will allow a wide range of individuals preparation opportunities for employment that would greatly improve the size and quality of the workforce.

Furthermore, I have personal and professional involvement in this and can speak from experience. I am a retired professor of Educational Administration at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. After retirement, I began teaching career foundations courses at the Moanalua campus of McKinley Community Schools for Adults. I’ve seen the changes this program has made in the lives of many of my students, and I am prepared to give further testimony, if necessary, The changes in student’s lives is amazing, if not astounding. Unfortunately, I am retiring permanently from the program when it ends today, January 31, 2024. I won’t be teaching part-time anymore. The program needs a dedicated, full-time teacher to work with and support students. That is essential. Without it, the future of the program is in serious jeopardy.

HB 2242 will give students the support to enhance opportunities for to gain Associate’s degrees and other certificates and diplomas recognized by industries to fulfill the needs of the state of Hawai‘i as the twenty- first century progresses. In light of the rapidly changing world of technology in industry and other fields, it would support the development of preparation for employment in capacities and industries that that were, perhaps, not even yet in existence in 2022. Further, the bill provides for two full time workforce readiness coordinators who could serve in a variety of ways to serve as liaisons with industry to ensure that the workforce readiness program functions on the leading edge of the employment needs in Hawai‘i.

In summary, I believe HB 2242 provides the means for a necessary and vital program to serve the citizens of Hawai‘i.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey B. Roberts

January 31, 2024



**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 8:40:00 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b>       | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Carole K Mitsuyoshi-Sugai | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

HB 2242, Career Foundations is so important in serving the needs of an often neglected section of our population. I had the privilege of working with a group of "once homeless" Micronesian/Chuukese women using the Career Foundations program. Within a short period of time, their self confidence increased and desire for a better life for their families was verbalized. In two cases, these mothers began taking more interest in their children's commitment to school and worked more closely with the school counselor on attendance. HB 2242 will help to continue serving this often neglected population giving them hope for their future and their children's future.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 8:44:33 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ROBERTA TANAKA      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 9:19:30 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Alex Li             | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

HI,

I fully support career ready certification program. This will facility adult education and offer a second chance to people who missed the opportunity of qualified eduction to find a job. A cerfitcation will give confidence to employers to hire people currently studying at adult school. Not long ago, I went with my wife to see a consultant on medicare issues and found the consultant used to be a student at Mckinley Community School for Adults, where I work as a tech support. I felt so good about that --- all of sudden, all the things our school's principal, staff, teachers, and students worked hard on became so meaningful. Thank you for support Adult Education.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 10:39:35 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Michael Callahan    | McKinley Community School for Adults | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Having spent the past 5 years working in adult education on Kauai, I have first hand knowledge of how necessary it is for students to aquire the skills and credentials to make them employable. COVID-19 affected many of our students, who now they lack the social and emotional skills as well as the basic education required to succeed in the workforce. Funding for a FTE career foundations position will help MCSA address this growing workforce readiness problem.

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 11:23:23 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                    | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jamie Kahalewai     | McKinley Community<br>School of Adults | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Allowing the School to hire full time teachers will allow this class to be taught right using different teaching strategies.



**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 12:50:08 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                  | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Kellsie Tokita      | McKinley Community School for Adults | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 12:53:40 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Diane Y Omura       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Jan. 31, 2024

Committee on Education

Dear Honorable senators,

My name is Diane Omura, an ELL(English Language Learner) teacher at the McKinley Community School for Adults, on the island of Maui, writing in support of HB2242. This bill will allow us to have 4 resource teacher positions on various islands to manage our workforce readiness programs.

We serve adults learners with various educational needs and provide resources for success. The students in my program must first learn and master English. However, since many have moved here because of job opportunities, there is an increasing demand for workforce readiness programs. HB 2242 is a response to such needs. An investment in this bill will in time, benefit our community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane Omura

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 1:48:30 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Haaheo Kahalewai    | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I am in total support of this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 3:34:13 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Tehani Kahalewai    | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Soft skills are a necessity when entering the workforce & having educators being able to provide those basic necessities to students who are entering the workforce will have a major impact.

**LATE**

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 4:12:55 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Julia Martin | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I am Julia Martin, a business coach, curriculum developer, and founder of Dream Your Life LLC, with a professional background spanning over 15 years at some of the top tech companies in the world, including Google and Twitter. I am writing to express my strong support for the allocation of resources and funding to hire four full-time teachers for the implementation of Career Foundations, a groundbreaking curriculum designed to equip high school students with essential professional skills. I am proud to share that I played a role in developing the Career Foundations program, collaborating closely with MCSA (McKinley Community School for Adults).

The Career Foundations curriculum consists of several programs including "Build Your Skills" and "Build Your Bank," each aimed at fostering the personal and financial development of our students.

"Build Your Skills" is a comprehensive program that focuses on instilling fundamental professional skills crucial for success in the workplace. The skills taught, including communication, collaboration, teamwork, problem-solving, customer service, and general professionalism, are essential not only for academic success but also for creating well-rounded and employable individuals. Drawing on my extensive experience at leading tech companies, including Google and Twitter, I have infused into the program what I believe are essential professional skills crucial for thriving in today's dynamic work environment.

The second program, "Build Your Bank," addresses a critical aspect of personal & professional development by providing a holistic financial literacy education. Tailored specifically for high school students and young adults, this program aims to empower individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the complexities of personal finance. By instilling financial literacy at an early age, we equip our students with the tools to make informed decisions about their financial future, promoting long-term stability and independence.

As our community continues to face economic challenges, it is imperative that we invest in the education and empowerment of our youth. By supporting the Career Foundations curriculum, we are not only ensuring that our students are academically prepared but also equipping them with the practical skills and financial acumen needed to become stellar employees and responsible members of society.

I kindly urge you to advocate for the allocation of resources required to hire four full-time teachers dedicated to the successful implementation of Career Foundations in our high schools. This investment will undoubtedly yield long-term benefits for our community by fostering a generation of well-prepared, skilled, and financially literate individuals.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your ongoing commitment to the education and future success of our youth.

Sincerely,  
Julia Martin

Business Coach and Founder Dream Your Life LLC

**LATE**

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 6:06:28 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By    | Organization              | Testifier Position | Testify                |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Melanie Feldman | You Are Going Places, LLC | Support            | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Melanie Feldman, a career coach, author and founder of You Are Going Places LLC, with a background in tech for the last 15 years (Apple & Twitter). I am writing to express my strong support for HB 2242 to appropriate funds for four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) Career Foundations Certificate Program teachers for McKinley Community School of Adults (MCSA). I have also had the pleasure of working with MCSA to create the Career Foundations curriculum and train teachers across the state on how to effectively implement the program in the classroom.

Career Foundations teaches students the professional skills needed to become stellar employees. They learn skills such as communication, critical thinking, problem solving, professionalism, triggers and coping skills and customer service. They also dive into their passions, curiosities and personality type and connect these learnings to jobs and careers they feel aligned to. When you have students who graduate high school and work at jobs they are interested in, students become loyal and engaged employees and businesses will thrive.

At the end of each Career Foundations PD training, we have our teachers fill out a survey to understand how they will be using the curriculum in the classroom. For the following question, *"Do you believe the Career Foundations curriculum will better equip you in supporting your students with their professional skills development?"* 100% of our teachers have answered "yes". Our teachers, who are closest to our students, have identified this curriculum as an immediate need and are excited to get this in the classroom.

I ask that you advocate for the support of additional resources for Career Foundations with four full-time hires. This will allow the needed support for teachers across the state as they roll this curriculum out in the classroom. Accountability and support is critical for a program to be successful and this will make that happen.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my testimony with you today in support of HB 2242

Sincerely,

Melanie





**LATE**

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 9:26:12 PM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| duane kurisu        | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Programs that HB 2242 will provide can change the lives of many. We have experienced transformational results with a similar program at Kahauiki Village for those who were formerly homeless. As such, I fully support HB 2242.

**LATE**

**HB-2242**

Submitted on: 2/1/2024 7:50:30 AM

Testimony for EDN on 2/1/2024 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Fanar Jarjees       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support Bill 2242 Program provides learning opportunities for those entering the workforce without a high school diploma to equip them with the necessary basic education and access to job training programs