

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: 03/13/2024

Time: 03:00 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2242, HD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates funds for full-time equivalent career foundations certificate program teachers for McKinley Community School for Adults. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) provides comments on HB 2242, HD2.

Full-time equivalent (FTE) teachers for the career foundations certificate program in 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.

While the Department supports the intent of this measure, these positions were not included in the Department's Governor approved budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony for HB 2242, HD2.



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President

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Executive Director

TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAII SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Item: **HB2242 HD2 - Relating to education**
Position: **Support**
Hearing: **March 13, 2024, 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 229**
Submitter: **Osa Tui, Jr. – President, Hawai'i State Teachers Association**

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association **supports** HB2242 HD2 which appropriates funds for full-time equivalent career foundations certificate program teachers for 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.



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: Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair Committee on Education
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Committee on Education

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen H. Sanpei".

RE: HB 2242 HD2 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, HD2 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, HD2.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 11:21:53 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lance Jyo | Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults | Support | Written Testimony 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-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 8:52:54 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Ryan Sanpei | Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Committe Members,

The Career Foundations Program was developed due to countless requests coming from the Hawaii Workforce. They requested that all students be equipped with "work ready", professional skills. McKinley Community School for Adults listened to the needs of the Workforce and created a comprehensive program designed to address those needs. Now that this program is completed, McKinley needs the support of teachers to carry out this program. Full-time teachers would help maintain the stability, validity and longevity of Career Foundations, a program designed to meet the needs of both employers and future employees in the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for your time,

Ryan Sanpei

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 10:32:26 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shelby Hamamoto | Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee,

I support HB 2242, HD 2 which appropriates funds for four, full-time equivalent career foundations certificate program teachers for McKinley Community School for Adults. The workforce readiness program will provide opportunities for students to develop the skills needed and earn credentials to make them highly employable.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2242, HD 2.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/8/2024 7:58:22 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aaron Takeba | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support this HB2242

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 10:51:23 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 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-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 3:24:30 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I whole heartedly support HB2242. Having worked with women at Kahauiki Village, who were once homeless, using Career Foundations, I can attest to the fact that it has made a tremendous difference in their desire to work towards self-improvement and job readiness. This program gave them the confidence and helped them to realize that improving their job-skills is attainable.

Please support HB2242.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 4:06:36 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Raymond Sugai | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I am in support HB2242, a very worthy bill. I have assisted in working with the adult women students of Kahauki Village who were once homeless. This program, Career Foundations, has made a difference in their desire to work toward self improvement and job readiness. I have definitely observed their confidence grow as well as realize that improving their job skills will help them attain their goals.

Please support HB 2242 Mahalo.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 8:11:33 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lena Kanemori | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I support HB2242.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/9/2024 9:38:55 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cary Miyashiro | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

McKinley Community School for Adults' (MCSA) Career Foundation certificate will provide a solid work foundation for high school students as well workers and/or potential workers. Since instructors at MCSA are part time and there is a constant need to fill positions I support funding at least four (4) full time positions to implement the Career Foundation Certificate program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Cary Miyashiro

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2024 10:21:56 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ellen Tanoura | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

This bill will enable MCSA which supports the deep routed issues of joblessness and homelessness of individuals with the skills that they need to become more engaged, purposeful, and wage earning adults who will support themselves and their families. The Essential Education and Career Foundations programs training is necessary to change the paradigm of purposeful learning for many who have not been successful in traditional education.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 8:24:29 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Michele Fukumoto | Individual | Support | Written Testimony 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-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 11:09:22 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Candace Saski | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Offering more options for education and programs to help those who need it and opens up opportunities that will help the individual as well as the community. Totally in support of this bill.

Thank you!

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 11:12:49 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Raden Nagamine | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Investing in the development of soft skills alongside literacy and numeracy can significantly enhance one's employability and contribute to long-term career success. Funding this instructor will help individuals develop these abilities.

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 11:59:45 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Kylee Yamamoto | Individual | Support | Written Testimony 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-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 2:45:57 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Stacey Roberts | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I fully support HB2242 that provides for a full-time (4.0 FTE) teacher to support the workforce readiness program in Hawaii that would operate under the Community Schools for Adults. It will give students the support to enhance opportunities to gain Associate's degrees and other certificates and diplomas recognized by industries to fulfill the needs of the state as the 21st century progresses.

I believe HB2242 provides the means for a necessary and vital program to serve the citizens of Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted

Stacey B. Roberts

March 10, 2024

LATE

HB-2242-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 9:40:35 AM

Testimony for EDU on 3/13/2024 3:00:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Fanar Jarjees | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support HB2242 that provides for a full-time teacher (4.0 FTE) for our Career Foundations Certificate Program