



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
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Date: 02/08/2024

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Labor & Government
Operations
House Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2397 RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PROCUREMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Exempts career and technical education goods and services purchases by the Department of Education from the State Procurement Code. Repeals on 7/1/2027.

Department's Position:

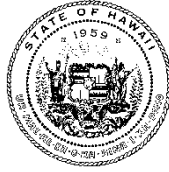
The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 2397 which is part of the Governor's administrative package.

As the educational landscape continues to evolve, the Department must ensure that teachers and students have access to the appropriate instructional tools and resources necessary to provide our students with the education they need to succeed in the current and future workforce, whether they pursue college (including technical education), military service, and/or employment after high school.

Career and technical education (CTE) teaching tools can involve a long lead time for delivery of the equipment. Additionally, under the current procurement process, the length of time to procure this type of CTE equipment may be impacted by protests to a formal competitive solicitation, or objections to a Chief Procurement Officer Exemption Request Notice or Sole Source Notice. These events delay the timing of making CTE programs available to students or may remove the opportunity to implement the programs.

By adding this exemption, this measure would allow the Department to obtain the type of CTE equipment needed in a more timely and less cumbersome manner. This will better enable the Department's CTE programs to provide opportunities for our students to acquire technical skills and knowledge using equipment that meets current industry standards and employer expectations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.



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TESTIMONY
OF
BONNIE KAHAKUI, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES
ON
LABOR & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND
EDUCATION

February 8, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

HOUSE BILL 2397
RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROCUREMENT

Chair Matayoshi, Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Garrett, Vice Chair La Chica, and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 2397. The State Procurement Office (SPO) provides the following comments and recommendations to the additional language in Section 2, page 6, lines 20 to 22, to page 7, lines 1 to 4:

Comments: The SPO and the Department of Education (DOE) met and agreed to language that is acceptable to both parties.

Recommendations: If this bill moves forward, the SPO recommends the following changes to Section 2, page 6, lines 20 to 22, to page 7, lines 1 to 4, of the bill as follows;

“(L) Education equipment, materials, and related training [~~purchased by the department of education~~] for direct student instruction that are specific and unique to the career and technical education pathway programs as defined in section 302A-101, such as anatomy tables, flight simulators, and welding simulators ~~purchased by the department of education~~; provided that:

Purchases over \$100,000 require a minimum of 3 written quotes:

- a) Awards over \$2,500 are posted on a publicly accessible electronic system;
- b) Awards over \$2,500 are compliant with Chapter 103D-310(c)

Additionally, the SPO recommends that the DOE have guardrails in place to ensure transparency and a standard process of checks and balances.

Thank you.