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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
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Written Comments

HCR203

ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGES SUMMER TUITION PILOT PROGRAM

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director
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Presented to the House Committee on Higher Education & Technology

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 309 & Via Videoconference

Chair Perruso and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon Chair Perruso and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau). Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments on H.C.R. No. 203, Establishing a Working Group to Evaluate the Effectiveness of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges Summer Tuition Pilot Program.

The purpose of this measure is to establish a Working Group to evaluate the effectiveness of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges Summer Tuition Pilot Program. The Working Group would be co-chaired by one member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The remaining members of the Working Group would be appropriate persons invited by the Working Group's co-chairs.

The measure also requests that the Working Group submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025.

The measure further requests that the Bureau assist the Working Group with finalizing the report.

The Bureau takes no position on the merits of this measure but submits the following comments for your consideration.

As to the request of the Bureau to assist the Working Group with finalizing the report, the Bureau notes that the finalized report would be due on December 26, 2024. The Bureau notes that during this time period of any year, the Bureau is generally inundated with requests from members to draft legislation for the upcoming regular session. Accordingly, to ensure that the Bureau has sufficient time to fulfill its regular legislative drafting duties and to finalize the requested report on time, the Bureau respectfully requests that measure be amended to request that the Working Group submit a rough draft of the report to the Bureau no later than October 15, 2024.

If the foregoing requested amendment is made, then the Bureau believes that the services requested under the measure would be manageable, provided that the Bureau's interim workload is not adversely impacted by too many other additional responsibilities, such as conducting studies, writing or finalizing other reports, drafting legislation, or any combination of these for the Legislature or for other state agencies, task forces, or working groups that may be requested or required under other legislative measures.

Thank you again for your consideration.