



Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Education  
Monday, February 12, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

By  
Stephen Schatz, Executive Director  
Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education

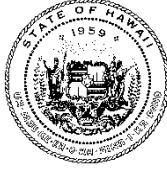
## SB2257 SDI – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB2257 SDI related to amending Section 302A-803, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education (Hawai'i P-20) supports SB2257 SDI, which amends Section 302A-803, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, to include “or high school diploma with comparable education” related to career and technical education (CTE) teacher qualifications and licensing. This amendment would allow the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB), as the agency that determines teacher qualification standards, to consider alternate qualifications for teachers. For example, an Executive Chef with more than 20 years of experience in the culinary industry who has operated and opened numerous fine-dining restaurants but does not have an associate's degree might be permitted to teach high school CTE courses in Culinary if this amendment is passed. This change to the statute has the potential to remove barriers to teacher licensing for career and technical education professionals who have extensive industry experience but lack the minimum associate's degree currently required in statute.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB2257 SDI.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD**

650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 268  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**PERSON TESTIFYING:** Mitzie Higa, Licensing Specialist, on behalf of the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB)

**DATE:** February 12, 2024

**TIME:** 3:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Conference Room 229 and Video Conference

**TITLE OF BILL:** SB2257 SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION; HTSB; Career and Technical Education; Education Requirements; Qualified Individuals

**PURPOSE OF BILL:** Authorizes the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board to consider qualified individuals with at least an associate's degree or high school diploma with comparable education and coursework, industry experience, and content expertise to teach career and technical education courses. (SD1)

**POSITION:** Supports

Chair Michelle Kidani, and Members of the Committee;

**The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) supports SB2257 SD1, relating education.**

We need to support our Career and Technical Education (CTE) pipeline of educators along with our students who require CTE credits to complete their studies. Many students decide not to attend college, and instead choose a viable career in CTE, sometimes referred to as the "trades" that do not require a degree to enter into a career and make a very good living. This bill will help support the highly qualified educators they need. Part of understanding the needs of our students, is understanding that they may learn very well from professionals who have worked for many years in their field, despite not having a college degree. They may have attended a technical school, or they may have gone through an apprenticeship to learn their trade. CTE skills are not always learned in college. Although the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board does believe, and will continue to require, they learn pedagogy of teaching etc., as it is very different to teach someone on the job with one or maybe two apprentices, but having a classroom of 30 students is very different. However, to support our CTE educators and those who want to become CTE educators, to help our students in their endeavors, we support this bill.

CTE programs allow students the opportunity to explore and learn through practical application of academic and technical skills. Many of the job openings today are for positions that do not require a college degree, but do require the skill for their specific field. By improving the CTE pipeline, we can expand educational and career options for our students while supporting our local economy. We want to support better support toward graduation for students who are in CTE programs, and this means we need qualified CTE educators.

The Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board asks your committee to support this bill.

**SB-2257-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 10:34:57 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/12/2024 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peggy Regentine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2257 for many reasons:

1.I am a retired Community College Professor and saw programs such as Automotive Technology strive at Honolulu Community College and also Windward Community college.

2. Also I saw Beauty School programs that gave applicants a career in a great profession to become independent successful citizens.

3. I do not believe either of these professions require a 4 year degree. I also know I need these professions as I cannot dare service my car and I do appreciate hair dressers who probably made more money than me.

Let's give those with the desire to work in these careers an opportunity to thrive in Hawaii. We need them.

Mahalo. Peggy Regentine

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:** 02/12/2024  
**Time:** 03:00 PM  
**Location:** CR 229 & Videoconference  
**Committee:** Senate Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 2257, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Authorizes the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to consider qualified individuals with at least an associate's degree or high school diploma with comparable education and coursework, industry experience, and content expertise to teach career and technical education courses. (SD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2257 SD1, but defers to the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board as to the implementation of this measure.

The proposed amendment would authorize the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to exercise more flexibility when considering industry professionals to become licensed teachers in career and technical education courses.

This aligns with the recently adopted Hawaii State Board of Education's Strategic Plan desired outcome of filling all teacher positions with qualified hires.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2257 SD1.