Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
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by
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SB 607 -- Making an Appropriation for Experiential Learning

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kathy Jaycox, and I am the Interim Executive Director of the Hawai`i P-20 Initiative. I am here to testify in regard to Senate Bill 607, which provides funding to the University of Hawai`i to design, research and develop a statewide web-based database of experiential learning opportunities, as well as to conduct a study to identify the barriers which limit the ability/interest of organizations to provide experiential learning opportunities.

I fully support the intent of this bill -- it is consistent with both the mission and the vision of the Hawai`i P-20 Initiative. This bill addresses the needs of employers who wish to offer experiential learning opportunities as well as the needs of educators who seek the support of the business community. I appreciate the fact that the bill allows for a design phase, during which input will be sought from a wide range of stakeholders. This wide range of input will promote the likelihood that the resulting database builds upon existing efforts and minimizes duplication of effort.

I also express the caution that these funds should not replace any funding priorities already established by the Board of Regents within the University's institutional budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to express support for Senate Bill 607. Should you have any questions, I shall be happy to address them.