



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
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By
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SB 2671 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO VETERINARY TECHNICIANS

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2671 SD1 HD1. This measure, beginning 7/1/2018, would establish requirements for the regulation of veterinary technicians and the practice of veterinary technology. It also would establish registration requirements and limitations on use of titles for veterinary technicians.

The Veterinary Technology Associate of Science Degree Program at Windward Community College has been performing above expectations as a source of well-prepared graduates who may sit for candidacy for the Veterinary Technician National Exam (VTNE). Since its inception during the 2012-13 academic year the program has achieved its initial accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association to become the only accredited Veterinary Technology program in the State joining 230 others nationwide. Additionally the program has achieved a graduation rate (48 graduates) 60% above anticipated numbers, and recorded a 79% passing rate for the VTNE when comparable figures nationally are at 65%. Moreover the program has implemented a distribution plan by offering the first half of the degree program to Maui via distance education for didactic courses with on-site instruction by program faculty for the laboratory work. Plans are in development to extend similar offerings to Hawai'i Island and Kaua'i for the academic years 2017-2019. With the program housed in a new state of the art facility on the Windward Community College campus, and cooperating for program distribution via the auspices of University Center facilities on Maui, Hawai'i and Kaua'i the State will have a secure and growing supply of candidates for Veterinary Technician licensure.

The UH Community Colleges is in concurrence with the intent of the bill and supports its passage.