



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology
House Committee on Education
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 2:10 p.m.

By

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And

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HB 1204 – RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

Chairs Perruso and Woodson, Vice-Chairs Kapela and Marten, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the intent of HB 1204, relating to Public Education. This scholarship program shall cover the cost of tuition for four years leading to a bachelor's degree in teaching, provided that the candidate remains in good academic standing. In return the student must commit to teaching in a public-school classroom of the department of education.

The University of Hawai'i, College of Education (COE) offers comments to the following:

Termination from the program

Termination from any program should follow the guidelines set forth by the university or college which includes grade point averages, and satisfactorily completing all requirements with a course determined passing grade.

Service Obligation requirements

Students will need to complete seven out of ten years of teaching following graduation, and obtaining a license from the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board. The COE offers a suggestion whereby a ratio or years of service for each year served be the foundation of determining service obligations requirements. For instance, for any federal personnel preparation grant, scholars are required to fulfill a ratio of 2:1 (two years for every year of funding). There may be students who may have elected to enroll later and therefore receive less than the four-year allotment.

Admission Requirements; Policy and Procedures for implementation

- (a) The COE supports the establishment of the public education scholarship program. The COE will work with the HIDOE, and University of Hawaii's Outreach College to promote a pathway for a scholarship program.

(b) The COE requests that resources be provided in order to address the admission requirements, policy and procedures, and monitoring of students prior to admission, during the program, and upon completion. The monitoring system is needed to ensure candidates are completing their service obligation.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget.

Thank you for opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1204.