Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Friday, February 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
By
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and
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HB 1534 HD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1534 HD1, which establishes a teacher apprenticeship program to support, recruit, develop, and retain teachers for Hawai'i's public schools. As stated in the bill, the program is a valuable strategy in helping to address statewide K-12 teacher shortages in Hawai'i's public schools.

The University of Hawai'i, College of Education is committed to establishing a teacher apprenticeship program statewide. In addition, comments are being offered for HB 1534.

- (1) §302A The establishment of the Hawai'i Teacher Apprenticeship Program to be administered by the Hawai'i Teacher Standard Board under the guidance of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations as required by law should be articulated.
- (2) With regards to eligibility for candidates and mentors, we would support the language and requirements be set by the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board and Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Thank you for allowing our testimony on HB 1534 HD1.