



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
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By

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And

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SB 2691 SD1 – RELATING TO TEACHER EDUCATION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2691, SD1 which establishes a network improvement community task force to develop a K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) teacher education degree for the University of Hawai'i.

The College of Education supports the intent of this bill, provided that its passage does not impact priorities in our BOR Approved Budget, for establishing a K-12 STEM task force. In collaborating with the HIDOE, community colleges, neighbor island HIDOE administrators, teachers, and private entities to examine the feasibility of a K-12 STEM curriculum and program is a potential innovative approach to STEM teacher training. This statewide effort requires technology support in order to provide quality learning opportunities and access for all interested teacher candidates.

The delivery of high-quality professional opportunities and teacher mentoring is essential to building teacher capacity and confidence in the development of STEM K-12 curriculum and program. In order to arrive at a high quality STEM K-12 program, the college will work closely with all interested parties to ensure academic quality and work force success.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 2691 SD1.