



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Ways and Means Committee
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By
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SB 516 SD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

As the Hawai'i State Director for Career and Technical Education (CTE) which falls under the University of Hawai'i, I support SB 516 SD1 with comments and recommended revisions.

This bill would require the State Board for CTE to oversee and annually review statewide data collection processes and reporting requirements related to the student attainment of industry-recognized credentials, and annually report to the Governor and the Legislature on its findings

It is in alignment with the US DOL's Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act, (WIOA), the US DOE's Every Student Succeeds Act, (ESSA) and the Strengthening CTE for the 21st Century Act, (Perkins V) State Plans – all of which have directed their agencies to measure indicators of student success - of which industry-recognized credential attainment is but one.

Progress was made over the last year through cross-agency and employer work groups to determine which credentials Hawaii's employers value and endorse. Additionally, representatives from all of the agencies are collaborating on data definitions, collection reporting, analysis, and most importantly, the data-sharing agreements that ensure the data meets all security requirements.

After further conversation with partner agencies regarding this bill, we offer the following recommendations:

1. Representatives from the agencies would appreciate the opportunity to work with the legislators to address the specificity of the language in the bill and correct the statements about the "Promising Credentials" committee.
2. There is significant work still to be done to create the protocols and processes to do this with integrity – and to then implement the plan. The work of organizing and implementing data collection and reporting across all agencies statewide is unlikely to be completed by the bill's proposed effective date of July 1, 2022. I would respectfully recommend that the effective date be set for July 1, 2023.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.