



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Monday, April 4, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

By

Nathan Murata, Dean
College of Education

And

Michael Bruno, PhD
Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2359 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2359 SD1 HD1, relating to the University of Hawaii system to establish in each county, K-12 expanded teaching cohort programs for students who are pursuing undergraduate degrees in education.

The University of Hawai'i, College of Education (COE) is committed to establishing an expanded cohort program. While the majority of COE programs are online and delivered statewide, we know that expanding our offerings is critical to building capacity on the neighbor islands and to increase the pipeline of educators. The COE will also work closely with the Hawai'i Department of Education, and all UH system campuses in order to streamline programs for students pursuing undergraduate degrees in education and to stabilize the Department of Education's workforce.

The University of Hawai'i, COE co-chairs with the Department of Education's superintendent, the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC), established under HRS §304A-1202, which offers a 5-year strategic plan to encourage capacity building as part of its 5-year strategic plan.

Thank you for opportunity to provide testimony.