

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM** 

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Education Monday, January 31, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. By Nathan Murata, Dean College of Education And Michael Bruno, PhD Provost University of Hawai'i at Manoa

SB 3209 - RELATING TO TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on SB 3209, relating to Teacher Professional Development

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Education supports the intent of SB 3209 which finds teacher professional development to be a mainstay for Pre/K-12 teachers. Teacher professional development and supported learning opportunities focusing on long-term, sustained commitment to educational practice, application, reflection, and results can have a positive effective on student learning. With professional development opportunities, teachers can be empowered to invest in their respective content areas, maintain current in their field, obtain new and innovative teaching strategies, promote retention, and cultivate a culture of empowerment.