



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM
‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony
Hō‘ike Mana‘o I Mua O Ka ‘Aha‘ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

By

Della Teraoka

Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Community Colleges
University of Hawai‘i System

SB 155 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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

The University of Hawai‘i supports the intent of SB 155, which establishes and provides funds for a Network Improvement Community Task Force to develop K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) teacher education degree to be expended by the University of Hawai‘i Maui College (UHMC). SB 155 also provides for a position and funds for the establishment of a STEM Entrepreneur-Resident at the UHMC. In addition, SB 155 provides funds for UHMC’s Office of International and Regional Partnerships for study abroad programs.

There is an extreme need for STEM teachers on Maui and throughout the state, and this bill aims to address this issue. Extending study abroad opportunities will enhance student learning at UHMC.

The University of Hawai‘i supports the intent of SB 155, as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 155.