



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education
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By

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SCR 98 SD1 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PARTNER WITH THE HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION AND TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES TO PROVIDE PATHWAYS FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO BECOME FULL-TIME TEACHERS

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair La Chica, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports SCR 98 SD1, which requests the Department of Education (DOE) to partner with the Hawai'i State Teachers Association and Teacher Education programs at local universities and colleges to provide pathways for school support personnel to become full-time teachers.

The UH recognizes the strong demand for qualified teachers in the DOE and the importance of providing strong educational pathways that lead local students to complete the required training to fill vacant teaching positions in Hawai'i. Developing clear teacher education pathways has been a focus for the UH, and we are reviewing ways to enhance the existing pathways to meet the state's teacher educator shortage.

The UH offers a number of programs including programs at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) such as a Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education, a Bachelor of Education in Special Education, a Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education and Hawaiian Immersion in a statewide hybrid format. Furthermore, UH West O'ahu offers an online Bachelor of Education which is available statewide. UH Hilo recently gained Board of Regents approval to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Education Studies this academic year to address teacher shortages on Hawai'i Island. The UHM also offers a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Early Education and the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Secondary Education.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) curriculum alignment among pre-college, two-year, and four-year providers can be complex and challenging to communicate to students and parents in a simple and straightforward manner. We acknowledge the need for co-designed, shared pathway maps that ensure students can move efficiently and effectively from the K-12 to post-secondary educational system and into a career with the requisite job skills needed to be successful in the workforce and earn a living wage job.

The UH are committed to continued collaboration with the DOE and Hawai'i P-20 in order to better serve the local communities in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SCR 98 SD1.