

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**LATE**

**Date:** 04/04/2024

**Time:** 10:10 AM

**Location:** CR 211 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Ways and Means

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Bill Title:** HB 1827, HD2 RELATING TO HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Education to support health care workforce development programs, specifically the public high school health care workforce certificate program and glidepath program for certified nurse aides. Appropriates funds to renovate and equip certain public high school classrooms to be used for health care training. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

### **Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) wishes to express its strong support of HB 1827, HD 2, which advances the Department's workforce development efforts within the health services pathway.

The Department has prioritized work-based learning to promote workforce readiness, supporting Goal 1.3 of the Board of Education Strategic Plan – "All students graduate high school prepared for college and career success and community and civic engagement." We appreciate the proposed funding for the public high school healthcare certification program as this will continue the workforce development work that the Healthcare Association of Hawaii has been doing and will increase access to healthcare training for all students, providing our students with the requisite skills to enter the healthcare workforce pipeline.

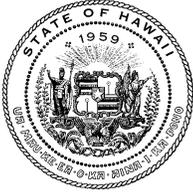
The Department also appreciates the funding to renovate and equip our high school health services classrooms. As the education landscape continues to evolve, the Department must ensure teachers have access to the appropriate instructional tools and resources necessary to provide our students with the education they need to succeed in the current and future workforce. Updating our classrooms to replicate actual clinical settings will allow the Department to focus on innovating instruction and engaging students through the use of technology and true-to-life scenarios to better prepare students for entry into the health services workforce.

The Department appreciates the Legislature's support in increasing access to work-based learning opportunities for high school students. The Department's goal is for all students to be globally competitive,

having the skills to build a successful career anywhere in the world, and locally committed, choosing to live, work, and grow here in Hawaii. Preparing our students for the current and future workforce here at home will not only address our workforce needs, but will also lead to a thriving Hawaii.

The Department defers to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations with regards to the implementation of the public high school healthcare workforce certificate program described in Part II and the glidepath program for certified nurse aides described in Part IV.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING  
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII

**KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH**  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

**JOHN C. (JACK) LEWIN, M.D.**  
ADMINISTRATOR

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1177 Alakea St., #402, Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: 587-0788 Fax: 587-0783 www.shpda.org

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

**Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz**

**Vice Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki, and**

**Honorable Members:**

**Testimony of John C (Jack) Lewin MD, Administrator, SHPDA**

**April 4, 2024 10:10 a.m. Room 211**

**Regarding H.B. 1827 HD2 (HSCR949-24) RELATING TO HEALTHCARE  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

**Position: SUPPORT**

**Purpose and Justification:**

The Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) strongly **supports** this measure, which appropriates funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Education to support health care workforce development programs, specifically the public high school health care workforce certificate program and glidepath program for certified nurse aides. It also appropriates funds to renovate and equip certain public high school classrooms to be used for health care training.

Hawaii's health care work force is in very short supply for physicians, nurses, and many other health care professionals and workers, particularly in the long-term care and home and community-based services workforce areas. The Healthcare Association of Hawai'i (HAH) has already sponsored some innovative pilot programs to encourage high school students to explore as volunteers the rewards of health care careers beginning as nurse's aides and other entry level positions which could provide real part-time jobs for graduates while in college with career ladder opportunities to advance toward eventually becoming nurses, physicians other kinds of health professionals.

Hawai'i residents who train to become health professionals here more likely to stay and work in Hawai'i during the careers. Developing the next generation of health care workers and professionals by attracting them to health care careers while they are still in high school is a brilliant strategy worth the modest investment that this bill would require.

SHPDA enthusiastically supports the intent of this me





**LATE**

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
April 04, 2024

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Thirty-Second Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT: HB1827 HD2 RELATING TO HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities is in **STRONG SUPPORT OF HB1827 HD2**, which appropriates funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Education to support health care workforce development programs, specifically the public high school health care workforce certificate program and glidepath program for certified nurse aides. Appropriates funds to renovate and equip certain public high school classrooms to be used for health care training. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

Individuals with developmental disabilities often rely on healthcare services in settings such as long-term care facilities, Adult Day Health programs, and one-on-one assistance to actively participate in our communities. These settings require a skilled healthcare workforce to provide the necessary care and support to individuals with developmental disabilities. Unfortunately, Hawaii faces a shortage of healthcare workers, exacerbating the challenges faced by our community in accessing quality care.

By addressing healthcare worker shortages as outlined in HB1827 HD2, our state has the opportunity to improve access to vital healthcare services for individuals with developmental disabilities. This measure is of great significance to the developmental disability (DD) community, because not only can we enhance the quality of care received by our community members but also increase their overall health and well-being.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **in strong support of HB1827 HD2.**

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus, Executive Administrator



**Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 10:10 am**  
**Conference Room 211**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

To: Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki

From: Hilton R. Raethel  
President and CEO  
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**  
**HB 1827 HD 2, Relating to Healthcare Workforce Development**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the healthcare continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our **strong support** for this measure. This bill would help to fund three critical pieces needed to build Hawaii's healthcare workforce pipeline—supporting high schoolers to get certified in key roles with a large shortage; helping current nurses to further their education and career while being able to earn a living; and creating modern, state-of-the-art facilities for our future healthcare leaders to train.

The programs in this measure have been refined over the past several years, with seed funding coming from private sources and the federal government to test and refine models to best recruit and retain talent in the state to fill critical healthcare roles. High school certification programs have helped to connect employers with students who do not plan to pursue further education right away—which is nearly 50% of our state's high school students—into jobs with competitive pay, purpose, and the chance for further career progression. This bill could help support the needed wrap-around services and employer matching that has made HAH's program result in a high job offer and acceptance rate. The funding request of \$750,000 could support 175 students in this program.

Further, the certified nurse aide (CNA) to licensed practical nurse (LPN) program has been a resounding success, with 31 individuals graduating in our pilot cohort in December of 2023. Prior to these programs, any CNA would have had to leave their job in order to further their nursing career. Through a hub and spoke model with UH Maui College and the support of

employer partners such as Kaiser and Ohana Pacific Health, these 31 individuals were able to continue to stay in the workforce and make a living while working towards their LPN certification. Getting this LPN certification meant a 50% increase to their wages, and a further step in their careers. The funding request of \$700,000 would support 50 students in this program.

This bill is designed to address the health care workforce shortage in a targeted, employer-driven manner that has shown great success in meeting industry needs. The proposed language also requires a 3:1 state to private match, which will ensure the commitment of community partners in moving the health care workforce certificate and CNA to LPN glidepath programs forward. Because of the unique nature of the public private partnership provided for in the bill, we believe that integrating these programs within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism could be appropriate given DBEDT's focus on coordinating programs aimed at specific business sectors.

Lastly, we would note that encouraging students to enter into healthcare must start early—and we must make it attractive for kids and teachers to want to engage in that learning pathway. We believe that we can build a best-in-class network of modernized healthcare classrooms with support from the legislature to kickstart the renovations on 38 classrooms. We do plan to seek other funding through private, philanthropic, and federal sources to support the renovation of every classroom. The funding request of \$1 million would allow renovations for up to seven classrooms.

We would request some amendments that we believe will strengthen the measure, which are included at the end of this testimony.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our strong support for this measure, and for the legislature's continued support in building the next generation of healthcare workers.

Amending page 3, line 10 to add the following language:

Accordingly, the purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to support the public high school health care workforce certificate program, which incorporates transition-to-employment support with demonstrated partner employers to fill in-demand professions, such as certified nurse aide, medical assistant, phlebotomist, and patient service representative. Funded certificate programs must serve the islands of Oahu, Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

Amending page 4, line 15 to add the following language:

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of education in partnership with non-profit community development and restoration organizations—for the purposes of this Act.

Amending page 6, line 5 to add the following language:

Accordingly, the purpose of this part is to appropriate funds to support the glidepath program for certified nurse aides working in long term care facilities on the islands of Maui, Oahu, Hawaii and Kauai and who are enrolled in employer-based cohorts that incorporate employer-sponsored tuition support, educational support and wrap services.

Lastly, any reference to the department of labor and industrial relations should be replaced with the department of business, economic development, and tourism.



**LATE**

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Thursday, April 4, 2024; 10:10 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211  
Via Videoconference**

**RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1827, HOUSE DRAFT 2, RELATING TO HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 1927, House Draft 2, RELATING TO HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines to over 150,000 patients each year who live in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would appropriate funds to support the public high school healthcare workforce certificate program and glidepath program for certified nurse aids, and renovate and equip certain public high school classrooms to make the classrooms more suitable for healthcare training.

This measure would take effect on July 1, 3000.

The State of Hawaii is experiencing a severe shortage of health care professionals in the workforce, especially in rural areas. Recent studies note that the current shortage of physicians is at 20% of the total full-time equivalent positions throughout the State. The shortage is especially severe in the fields of primary care, infectious diseases, colorectal surgery, pathology, general surgery, pulmonology, neurology, neurosurgery, orthopedic surgery, family medicine, cardiothoracic surgery, rheumatology, cardiology, hematology/oncology, and pediatric subspecialties of endocrinology, cardiology, neurology, hematology/oncology, and gastroenterology.

**Testimony on House Bill No. 1827, House Draft 2**  
**Thursday, April 4, 2024; 10:10 a.m.**  
**Page 2**

The same can be said for registered and practical nurses, community health workers, social workers, pharmacists, and other disciplines in the field of health care.

The HPCA believes this bill would provide a needed resources to our community by preparing students for meaningful employment, diversifying their learning opportunities, and promoting responsible citizenship. In addition, the program will facilitate partnerships between businesses and educators for the creation of mentoring ventures and other opportunities so that Hawaii's youth may gain the practical experience that will enable them to be productive members of our labor force. This is critical for the field of health care, especially in rural communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or [eabe@hawaiiipca.net](mailto:eabe@hawaiiipca.net).

Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 10:10 AM  
Via Video Conference; Conference Room 211

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson  
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: **Testimony in Support of HB 1827, HD2  
Relating To Healthcare Workforce Development**

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My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

HPH writes in **SUPPORT** of HB 1827, HD2 which appropriates funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLNR) and Department of Education (DOE) to support health care workforce development programs, specifically the public high school health care workforce certificate program and glide program for certified nurse aides.

Hawai'i is facing a shortage of health care professionals at nearly all levels, creating an environment where access to appropriate and timely health care is becoming increasingly difficult for individuals, especially those living in remote areas and neighbor island communities. A concerted effort involving the DLNR and DOE to create pipelines at the high school level to help recruit, train, and employ health care workers through programs that include career-path certificates for high school students and higher education and certification opportunities for nurse aides would be a meaningful step toward building our health care workforce. It has been shown that programs which encourage students at an early age to enter a health care profession have a high success rate.

The efforts of the Healthcare Association of Hawai'i (HAH) have been successful in connecting employers with students who do not plan to pursue higher education immediately upon graduation from high school into jobs with competitive pay and the chance for further career progression. Additionally, through partnerships with the Maui Community College, Kaiser Permanente and Ohana Pacific Health, the certified nurse aide to licensed practical nurse program has successfully graduated 31 individuals in the initial cohort. These 31 individuals were able to join the workforce and make a living while at the same time working towards their licensed practical nurse certification.

In light of the significant outcomes achieved to date, this measure would provide the necessary funding to increase the health care workforce in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**PALOLO CHINESE HOME**  
*Better Care. Better Lives*

**LATE**

**Thursday, April 4, 2024 at 10:10 am**  
**Conference Room 211**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**

To: Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Vice Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki

From: Darlene H. Nakayama  
CEO  
Palolo Chinese Home

Re: **Testimony in Support**  
**HB 1827 HD 2, Relating to Healthcare Workforce Development**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our **strong support** for this measure. This bill would help to fund three critical pieces needed to build Hawaii's healthcare workforce pipeline—supporting high schoolers to get certified in key roles with a large shortage; helping current nurses to further their education and career while being able to earn a living; and creating modern, state-of-the-art facilities for our future healthcare leaders to train.

The Palolo Chinese Home has been in business for 128 years caring for Hawaii's seniors. In 2022 PCH cared for 844 seniors through its programs and services – hospice care, skilled nursing/rehab, intermediate care, adult/expanded residential care, day care, home care and home delivered meals. We are experiencing a tremendous shortage in staff and had to close 18 nursing home beds due to the lack in mostly nurse staffing. PCH is in desperate need of kitchen and housekeeping help too.

The programs in this measure have been refined over the past several years, with seed funding coming from private sources and the federal government to test and refine models to best recruit and retain talent in the state to fill critical healthcare roles. High school certification programs have helped to connect employers with students who do not plan to pursue further education right away—which is nearly 50% of our state's high school students—into jobs with competitive pay, purpose, and the chance for further career progression. This bill could help support the needed wrap-around services and employer matching that has made HAH's program result in a high job offer and acceptance rate. The funding request of \$750,000 could support 175 students in this program.

Further, the certified nurse aide (CNA) to licensed practical nurse (LPN) program has been a resounding success, with 31 individuals graduating in our pilot cohort in December of 2023. Prior to these programs, any CNA would have had to leave their job in order to further their nursing career. Through a hub and spoke model with UH Maui College and the support of employer partners such as Kaiser and Ohana Pacific Health, these 31 individuals were able to

continue to stay in the workforce and make a living while working towards their LPN certification. Getting this LPN certification meant a 50% increase to their wages, and a further step in their careers. The funding request of \$700,000 would support 50 students in this program.

This bill is designed to address the health care workforce shortage in a targeted, employer-driven manner that has shown great success in meeting industry needs. The proposed language also requires a 3:1 state to private match, which will ensure the commitment of community partners in moving the health care workforce certificate and CNA to LPN glidepath programs forward. Because of the unique nature of the public private partnership provided for in the bill, we believe that integrating these programs within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism could be appropriate given DBEDT's focus on coordinating programs aimed at specific business sectors.

Lastly, we would note that encouraging students to enter into healthcare must start early—and we must make it attractive for kids and teachers to want to engage in that learning pathway. We believe that we can build a best-in-class network of modernized healthcare classrooms with support from the legislature to kickstart the renovations on 38 classrooms. We do plan to seek other funding through private, philanthropic, and federal sources to support the renovation of every classroom. The funding request of \$1 million would allow renovations for up to seven classrooms.

We would request some amendments that we believe will strengthen the measure, which are included at the end of this testimony.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our strong support for this measure, and for the legislature's continued support in building the next generation of healthcare workers.

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Lastly, any reference to the department of labor and industrial relations should be replaced with the department of business, economic development, and tourism.

Testimony of  
Jonathan Ching  
Government Relations Director

Before:  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
The Honorable Sharon Y. Kitagawa, Vice Chair

April 4, 2024  
10:10 a.m.  
Conference Room 211 & Via Videoconference

**Re: HB 1827, HD2, Relating to Healthcare Workforce Development.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 1827, HD2, which appropriates funding to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Education to support healthcare workforce development programs, specifically the public high school healthcare workforce certificate program and glidepath program for certified nurse aides.

**Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i SUPPORTS HB 1827, HD2.**

Kaiser Permanente is one of the nation's largest not-for-profit health plans, serving 12.6 million members nationwide, and more than 274,000 members in Hawai'i. In Hawai'i, more than 4,200 dedicated employees and more than 650 Hawai'i Permanente Medical Group physicians and advanced practice providers work in our integrated health system to provide our members with coordinated care and coverage. Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i has more than 19 medical facilities, including our award-winning Moanalua Medical Center. We continue to provide high-quality coordinated care for our members and deliver on our commitment to improve the health of our members and the 1.4 million people living in the communities we serve.

Thank you for hearing this very important measure that will continue to help build upon our local healthcare workforce. In January 2023, Kaiser Permanente, UNITE Here! Local 5, and the University of Hawaii Maui College launched their Practical Nurse Trainee Program, an 18-month program for current Kaiser Permanente employees who wish to pursue a career in the nursing field. The program's inaugural cohort consisted of 18 students, of which 11 are employees from various Kaiser Permanente departments and disciplines, including medical assistants and hospital aides.

The program's curriculum built and enhanced technical skills in primary and specialty care areas. The goal of the program is to provide a pathway for employees to become licensed and fill open Kaiser Permanente Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) positions across the state.

In December 2023, the first cohort of medical assistants, hospital aides, and technicians completed the rigorous curriculum and graduated from the University of Hawaii Maui College. Participants are preparing to take the NCLEX licensure exam to become licensed and fill LPN vaccines.

The funding from HB 1827, HD2 will support the public high school healthcare workforce certificate program, which is vital to addressing the shortage of healthcare professionals within the state. **We ask the committee to PASS HB 1827, HD2 adopting the amendments of the Healthcare Association of Hawaii.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

a grassroots initiative  
of the  
Honolulu Police Department

# Kapalama Neighborhood Security Watch

**Dear Chair Dela Cruz , Vice Chair Moriwaki & The Committee Members,**

**I'm testifying on behalf of Kapalama Neighborhood Security Watch, a grassroots of Honolulu Police Department, we train with the Community Policing Team. Although this is about recruiting & training nurses at DOE public schools by creating a pathway with Department of Labor & Industrial Relations, I'm testifying to raise up concerns about the public safety aspect of proactive healthcare management strategies for the chronically homeless and the need there will be in the near future for teams of nurses to work with emergency response teams & law enforcement in the public safety sector.**

**The Honolulu County is already initiating work with a team of University of Hawaii students studying to be doctor. This new conversation surrounding the County's triage center & improved police responses will train officers & behavioral health nurse teams to work together to find solutions that neither sectors can resolve without the other.**

**The chronically homeless are helped with compassionate care response teams like CORE Crisis Outreach Response Engagement which was copied from STAR support team assisted response program from the jurisdiction of the State of Colorado. Law enforcement officers are receiving medically & culturally appropriate training. This is a new structure of emergency response to public safety issues rooted in mental & behavioral health problems.**

**A concerted effort of DliR and DOE to create pipelines at the high school will help recruit & train nurses with programs including career-pathway certifications for high school students ages 14-18 years old to enter the healthcare workforce prepared for success or to prepare for higher education in medical studies to pursue a bachelors in science. The cost per student is approximated at \$4,300, and it is estimated that the program can recruit 175 students a year.**

**This is already happening at DOE's Waipahu High School. The program recruits students who want to play a critically important role in healthcare. At Waipahu High School, students are equipped & trained to prepare medical records, report patient history and prepare patients for diagnostic procedures by performing a series of tests: blood pressure, weight, and temperature. After completion of the class a student receives a medical assistant certification if the student can pass the national certification test.**

a grassroots initiative  
of the  
Honolulu Police Department

# **Kapalama Neighborhood Security Watch**

**This act will set forth polices & programs to help with improving the quality of life, education, healthcare access & medical equity in the State of Hawaii. The appropriations of funds will renovate & construct classrooms with facilities designed for healthcare training equipment. This is a necessary measure to enact.**

**Reading the testifiers comments, there is need for nurses to serve on the islands of Hawaii, Kauai & Maui. Testifiers also said the burden can be shared in partnership by activating the faith sector, nonprofits and restoration organizations. Please consider enacting this measure.**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

**Blessings,  
Angela Melody Young  
Kapalama NSW  
Volunteer Safety Coordinator**



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96819  
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

**Osa Tui, Jr.**  
President

**Logan Okita**  
Vice President

**Lisa Thompson**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Ann Mahi**  
Executive Director

## TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAI'I SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Item: **HB1827 HD2 - Relating to healthcare workforce development**

Position: **Support**

Hearing: **April 4, 2024, 10:10 a.m., Conference Room 211**

Submitter: **Osa Tui, Jr. – President, Hawai'i State Teachers Association**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association **supports** HB1827 HD2 which appropriates funds to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and Department of Education to support health care workforce development programs, specifically the public high school health care workforce certificate program and glidepath program for certified nurse aides and appropriates funds to renovate and equip certain public high school classrooms to be used for health care training.

With a “silver tsunami” beginning to hit with baby boomers reaching their twilight years, Hawai'i has a particularly aging population which will require more workers to care for them. At the same time, technological advances in the medical field come fast and furious and we need to ensure that the aspiring healthcare workforce will be well prepared to use the new tools that will come along.

To that end, Hawai'i students who have aspirations to join these careers need classroom experiences that mimic what they will encounter in the real world. This includes state-of-the-art training equipment and updated educational facilities which will ease the transition as students move into further education and into healthcare workspaces.

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-1827-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/4/2024 9:18:59 AM  
Testimony for WAM on 4/4/2024 10:10:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kaili	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am in strong support of hb1827 hd2 beacuse people with disabilty need access to healthcare while at a job in the community please pass this bill thank you.