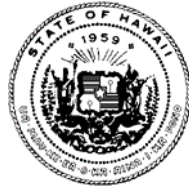


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



RYAN I. YAMANE  
DIRECTOR  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA  
Office of the Director  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

TRISTA SPEER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

February 17, 2025

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 742 SD1 – RELATING TO DATA SHARING.**

Hearing: February 19, 2025, 10:01 a.m.  
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this measure and defers to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services for necessary resources. DHS will participate in the working group. While sustaining appropriations are needed to support the vast scope of identified work, DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation in this bill not reduce or replace priorities identified in the executive budget.

**PURPOSE:** Establishes a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Requires the Working Group to submit annual reports to the Legislature. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

Committee on Labor and Technology amended the measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure



STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

February 19, 2025

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,  
The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025  
Time: 10:02 a.m.  
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

**Re: S.B. 742 SD1 RELATING TO DATA SHARING**

**I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

The DLIR **supports the intent** of this measure, stands ready to collaborate with our sister agencies in the proposed working group, and **defers to ETS** on matters of the administration and implementation of the working group.

SB742 SD1 proposes to create a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group in the Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), which would review the adequacy of departmental data sharing, address the State's capabilities regarding data sharing, make recommendations on an ongoing data sharing governance structure, and solicit input from various stakeholders, including labor and workforce organizations.

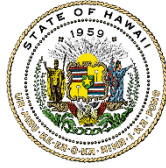
**II. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL**

The DLIR does not currently collect data on occupation, pay rate, and work location through its unemployment compensation wage record system (Pg. 5, lines 1-3). Requiring the collection of these data elements would necessitate state funding to add those data elements and for administrative costs, a MOU or new MOU between the DLIR and the agencies involved with the sharing of the data, and a cost allocation agreement between the DLIR and the U.S. Department of Labor (U.S. DOL). All expenses associated with developing and providing the data would require reimbursement in accordance with federal requirements.

The DLIR notes it is also developing a new platform for its Unemployment Insurance (UI) technology program to replace the legacy mainframe system, so the

working group would need to consider this transition as it examines potential data elements available from UI employer and wage records and note that the actual costs of furnishing the information are dependent upon the terms of the final agreements executed between the agencies.

The U.S. DOL requires strict confidentiality of UI information and adherence to the Congressional mandate that UI information is used only for the purpose for which it is directed. Therefore, in accordance with federal law and regulations, 383-95, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and 12-5-211 to 12-5-220, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the disclosure of information from workers, employers, or other persons or groups in administering the UI Program is confidential unless the DLIR director deems the sharing of the information is in the public interest. In addition, this sharing of information or data would require the development of MOUs and cost sharing agreements as outlined above.



**STATE OF HAWAII**

**Executive Office on Early Learning**

Ke'ena Ho'okele Ho'ona'auao Pae Kamali'i o Hawai'i Moku'aina  
2759 South King Street, Room C6  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96826

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Director  
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: Testimony on S.B. No. 742, S.D. 1 – RELATING TO DATA SHARING

Committee: WAM  
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025  
Time: 10:02 a.m.  
Location: Conference Room 211

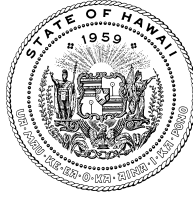
Executive Office on Early Learning's Position: **SUPPORT**

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) offers the following comments in support of S.B. No. 742, S.D. 1 and defers to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services regarding the feasibility and cost of implementation.

As the office responsible for coordinating Hawai'i's early learning system, which includes several programs across multiple departments, EOEL is committed to improving data integration and collaborating on a centralized governance structure for data sharing among State agencies.

We appreciate being included in the working group and look forward to co-developing a system that improves data access, analysis, and sharing, and provides better information to inform policy decisions that lead to better outcomes for Hawai'i's children and families.

We are grateful for the Legislature's ongoing investment in our youngest keiki and their families. Thank you for the opportunity to share this testimony in support of this measure.



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA

Testimony of  
**Michael K. Champion, MD**  
Senior Advisor for Mental Health and the Justice System

Before the  
**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**  
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:02 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In consideration of  
**Senate Bill No. 742SD1, Relating to Data Sharing**

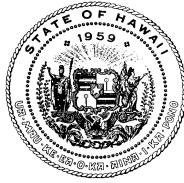
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee,

I am writing in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 742SD1, which establishes a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Behavioral health conditions are widespread, impacting people across socioeconomic levels. Addressing homelessness, mental health, substance use disorders, and public health issues requires a collaborative and coordinated cross-agency planning process with public and private sectors. A coordinated effort to share and translate data across agencies and stakeholder groups will support developing evidence-based solutions along with effective program development and implementation to address the needs of our community.

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

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



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A, M.P.H  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
KA 'ŌIHANA OLAKINO  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN  
TESTIMONY ONLY

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB742 SD1  
RELATING TO DATA SHARING

LATE

SENATOR DONOVAN DELA CRUZ, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date/Time: February 19, 2025, 10:02 AM

Room Number: 211

1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports this measure and offers  
2 comments.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Health Data and Informatics Office and Health Information  
4 System Office (HDIO HISO) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department. The  
5 DOH defers to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services and supports this measure.

6 The DOH will actively participate in the data governance working group to collaborate on  
7 shared technical solutions. The establishment of a cross-agency data governance working group  
8 is expected to reduce barriers to data use inside the State. The DOH anticipates increasingly  
9 leveraging data-driven-decision-making in order to be more effective and efficient in delivering  
10 health services and protecting the public's health.

11 As the only other agency with a Chief Data Officer, the DOH sees the value of data and is  
12 currently building on data assets to improve program operations. The DOH recognizes that  
13 cross-agency data has the potential to permit coordination of services across programs, for a  
14 holistic view of residents' needs. Shared technical infrastructure has the ability to reduce the  
15 costs of these solutions and improve agency to agency collaboration on common data for our

- 1 residents. SB742 SD1 aligns with ongoing DOH planning to appropriately and securely connect
- 2 data silos across the DOH and State as a whole.
- 3 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE  
KE KE'ENA KŪPA'A MAULI ŌLA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
415 S. BERETANIA ST. #415  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 742 SD 1  
RELATING TO DATA SHARING**

Representative Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Representative Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Ways and Means

February 19, 2025, at 10:02 a.m., Room Number 211

The Office of Wellness and Resilience (OWR) in the Governor's Office is in **SUPPORT** of SB 742 SD1, Relating to Data Sharing. The OWR offers comments and will defer to Office of Enterprise and Technology Services regarding implementation of this bill.

Data-sharing is critical for the state to transform service delivery across departments in ways that can better recognize and respond to experiences of trauma. By enabling departments to share relevant information securely, we can reduce the burden on individuals who otherwise must repeatedly share their stories across multiple agencies—a process that can be retraumatizing. This improved coordination supports the core principles of trauma-informed care: safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment. Furthermore, shared data enables community leaders, the legislature and governor to make more informed and transparent decisions about policies and programs that affect our most vulnerable populations.

A well-resourced data sharing working group will support this vital work by recommending protocols, frameworks, and data architecture that balance the need for information sharing with the importance of maintaining privacy and building trust, which are key elements of trauma-informed systems. This is particularly vital, given the recent unpredicted removal and potential future removal of open Federal data sets and/or variables (e.g., Youth Risk Behavior Survey). We believe that this represents a significant step toward building a more trauma-informed state government that better serves our state.

The OWR is heavily focused on continued quality improvement of data on social determinants of health. In 2024, in partnership with the Health Policy Initiative at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, the OWR launched the Hawai'i Quality of Life and Well-Being Dashboard. Surveying more than 10,000 residents statewide, the Dashboard provides an in-depth look at pressing social, economic and health issues affecting Hawai'i's residents. The intent of the Dashboard is to improve quality of life across our communities and interrupt negative trajectories of those who are impacted by adverse childhood experiences.

Towards this goal, the OWR has begun partnering across State agencies (e.g., Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Department of Health, Department of Correction and Rehabilitation,

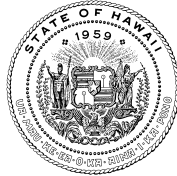


Department of Law Enforcement, etc.) to better utilize existing data and streamline our collective efforts to enhance quality of services for our communities.

**The OWR respectfully recommends that the committee consider the addition of the following offices to the working group:** the OWR and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (which is deeply focused on engaging in strategies to promote healthy and strong families). In addition, given the multitude of legal challenges surrounding complex data-sharing and data governance, the committee might also consider the addition of a representative from the Office of the Attorney General. Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify on this important issue.

Tia L. R. Hartsock, MSW, MSCJA  
Director, Office of Wellness and Resilience  
Office of the Governor

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

CHRISTINE M. SAKUDA  
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER  
LUNA 'ENEHANA

**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII'**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWA LAULĀ**

**OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES | KE'ENA HO'OLANA 'ENEHANA**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

Testimony of  
CHRISTINE M. SAKUDA  
Chief Information Officer  
Office of Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Wednesday, February 19, 2025

SENATE BILL NO. 742 SD1  
RELATING TO DATA SHARING

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

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) is in strong **support** of this bill to create a data sharing and governance working group within the Department of Accounting and General Services, Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Data sharing is critical for the state to improve service delivery across departments, support informed decisions of the legislature and the governor, enhance operational efficiencies, improve citizen services, enable faster response to disasters, and prevent fraud and abuse. While the Data Task Force establishes policies, procedures, and standards, we do need a designated Data Sharing and Governance Working Group to define and execute the detailed data sharing and governance framework and collaborated actions to establish and manage a sustainable data sharing mechanism within the state of Hawai'i.

Governor Green's priorities such as housing, affordability, healthcare, homelessness, all require statewide shared data to enable evidence-based decisions. A data sharing working group with resources and tools to implement data sharing will benefit the entire state.

Data governance sharing tools and staffing resources will be needed to support this working group in implementing secured data sharing with proper access controls to meet compliance needs and in establishing a statewide shared data platform to support decisions and analytics.

The recent unexpected removal of critical Federal open data sets since the end of January and the potential unpredicted removal of more Federal open data sets poses significant challenges to state governments in their evidence-based decision process. Since then, several organizations such as Harvard University Law Library have offered their storage of federal open data sets for the public. But this creates more complexity and extra work for everyone using these data sets to individually

[Type here]

obtain, store, and curate the data for their usage. This requires additional work to obtain, curate, and share the data.

This bill would solve this pressing need for the state to establish its own shared data platform for everyone to use. This shared data platform will include the open data sets from the Federal, State, and County governments and through ongoing collaboration, have shared data stored and curated ready for our policy and decision makers to support both day to day operations and emergency response needs.

We agree with the Committee on Labor and Technology's recommendation in STAND. COM. REP. NO. 52 to appropriate the amount of \$2,640,000 to establish and support the Data Sharing and Governance Working Group. To successfully support the goals of the working group, the following resources are needed to build out the data management team within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services:

(1) \$1,200,000 for data governance, a data-sharing platform, and data management:

Successful data sharing and governance approach is a journey starting with use cases using a statewide data sharing platform. This helps us identify additional unknown data sharing challenges and better assess future needs using real life examples. A statewide data sharing platform includes:

- a. \$150,000 for a data governance tool to protect privacy, improve data quality, identify existing data sets including data sets from the federal government,
- b. \$550,000 for a master data management tool to map and integrate data across departments and create a record at the state level to ensure smooth data sharing and accurate mapping and integration of the shared data,
- c. \$500,000 for a shared data platform with artificial intelligence / machine learning (AI/ML) capabilities to curate and store shared data from the Federal, State, and County governments including open data. The platform will also have the capability to conduct analysis, simulation, prediction, and visualization of such data to support daily operations and decisions from departments, organizations, and policy makers to best serve our residents. This is crucial with the removal and potential unpredictable future removal of Federal open data sets.

(2) \$590,000 for six full-time equivalent (6.0 FTE) positions described below to act as center of excellence to support the data sharing and governance activities using tools mentioned in (1):

- a. \$80,000 for a data privacy and governance specialist (1.0 FTE) to analyze data shared for any sensitive information and any data protection barriers to enable efficient data sharing. This person will design and implement data privacy needs and ensure data protection and compliance upon data sharing.
- b. \$120,000 for a data architect (1.0 FTE) to assess the existing technologies within all departments and modernization needs in support of section (b)(1)(F) in SB 742 SD1. This person will design and implement data sharing architecture.

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- c. \$120,000 for a master data specialist (1.0 FTE) to identify and analyze inconsistently defined data elements across organizations and systems and to provide recommendations to enable smooth data sharing in support of section (b) (2). This master data specialist will design and implement the master data management system which is critical to map data across departments.
  - d. \$80,000 for a data quality specialist (1.0 FTE) to analyze the quality of shared data in support of section (b) according to the Hawai'i Data Quality Guidelines (approved by the Data Task Force in December 2024) which includes six dimensions: accuracy, completeness, uniqueness, timeliness, consistency, and validity. Sharing poor quality data will lead to inaccurate analysis and decision recommendations. Trustworthiness of AI also relies mostly on the quality of data. The data quality specialist will help implement data quality tools and monitor and improve data quality of the shared data.
  - e. \$70,000 for an open data coordinator (1.0 FTE) to analyze existing open data and recommend actions on open data sharing in support of (b)(1) and (b)(2). This open data coordinator will manage and maintain open data, as well as creating visualizations and dashboards for legislatures and the public as mentioned in section (b)(G). Open data is an important part of the shared data. The State of Hawai'i has an existing open data site ([opendata.hawaii.gov](https://opendata.hawaii.gov)). However, data sets are not up to date or are incomplete. SR69 (2024) attempted to address this issue. But we need a thorough analysis and aggressive coordination. The recent removal of Federal open data sets makes it more pressing for us to have this role to coordinate not only our state open data sets, but also the Federal open data sets which are critical for our state's decision making.
  - f. \$120,000 for a data scientist (1.0 FTE) to conduct analysis of data and provide dashboards and simulations using shared data to support legislatures' decisions on affordability crisis. This will be the start of our data sharing journey.
- (3) \$850,000 for two years of consulting resources for initial set up activities and implementation with knowledge transfer to state resources:
- a. \$300,000 for consulting services to implement data governance tools to assess and improve data quality, establish data access control for sharing, catalog data to be shared, automate enforcement of data sharing agreements.
  - b. \$300,000 for consulting services to implement master data management and data integration platform to identify inconsistencies in data definition across organizations and map such data to enable smooth and accurate data sharing.
  - c. \$250,000 for consulting services to implement a shared data platform to store shared data, conduct analysis including AI/ML enabled predictive analysis and simulation on shared data, create decision recommendations using shared data, and visualize analytics results for decision makers and legislatures.

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



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:02 a.m.

By

Debora Halbert, Vice President for Academic Strategy  
University of Hawai'i System

#### SB 742 SD1 – RELATING TO DATA SHARING

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

The University of Hawai'i (UH) is providing comments regarding Senate Bill 742 SD1, which seeks to establish a data-sharing and governance working group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, coordinated by the Chief Data Officer. The University recognizes the importance of enhancing data sharing across agencies to better understand the challenges and opportunities that our state faces.

The University of Hawai'i is invested in improving the outcomes of its graduates as they navigate Hawai'i's challenging economic landscape. Robust data-sharing agreements among the Department of Education, the University of Hawai'i, and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, as mandated under HRS 27-7, already provide valuable insights into educational progress and workforce outcomes for UH graduates. These efforts, which also include our participation in the statewide 21st-Century Data Governance Data Task Force, exemplify our commitment to leveraging data for informed decision-making.

Access to data currently siloed in other state agencies could transform the University in its development of targeted programs that better align academic offerings with career pathways, leading to sustainable employment and affordable living in Hawai'i. For this reason, we support closing employment information gaps as proposed in Senate Bill 1491 SD1 Relating to Departmental Data Sharing, which will add the Department of Taxation and the Department of Economic, Development, and Tourism to the list of state agencies sharing data through the Statewide Longitudinal Data System. It would allow the Department of Taxation to link wage information by social security numbers to UH education records.

Furthermore, student basic needs—such as affordable housing, food security, and access to healthcare—are critical components of student success. The University is actively working to address these issues through our basic needs initiatives and most recently through participation in the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) Basic Needs Academy. To effectively advocate for policy changes and secure necessary resources, it is crucial to have robust data on the extent

of these needs and how they affect students' academic performance and overall well-being. Expanding data sharing with other state agencies could allow us to better understand the challenges facing our students, particularly those who are struggling to meet basic needs and tailor our support services accordingly with one possible outcome being that students eligible for multiple benefits could experience more streamlined processing as opposed to separate applications and documents for individual agencies.

The University of Hawai'i stands ready to collaborate with our partners in state government to provide the data-informed insights needed to make decisions that will benefit both students and the broader community. This initiative aligns with the University's own goals to enhance student outcomes, improve post-graduate employment opportunities, and address the affordability crisis that so many young adults and families are facing in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



February 17, 2025

**Position: Support of SB742 SD1, Relating to Data Sharing**

**To:** Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

**From:** Llasmin Chaîne, LSW, Executive Director, Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

**Re:** Testimony in Support of SB742 SD1, Relating to Data Sharing

Hearing: Wednesday, February 19, 2015, 10:02 a.m.  
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

On behalf of the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women (HSCSW), I would like to thank the committee for hearing this important bill, and for the opportunity to provide testimony and comments.

I would like to express my **strong support of SB742 SD1**, which establishes a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. I respectfully urge this Committee to **pass SB742 SD1** to enhance data sharing across state departments and better understand the challenges and opportunities that the people of Hawai'i face.

I defer to the chief data officer's determination as to the best way forward, but I would respectfully ask this Committee to consider HSCSW's mandate as outlined in HRS 367-3, to:

1. **Act as a central clearinghouse and coordinating body for governmental and nongovernmental activities and information relating to the status of women;**
2. **Create public awareness and understanding of the responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions of women and their roles in the changing society;**
3. **Recommend legislative and administrative action on equal treatment and opportunities for women;**  
and
8. **Submit an annual report with recommendations to the governor and the legislature,**

and include the HSCSW as a stakeholder in this effort, enabling it to better leverage the state's data for informed decision making.

I offer the proposed amendment for your consideration.

- Regarding the data sharing and governance working group's advisory groups and stakeholders, page 8, lines 9-18:

(d) The data sharing and governance working group shall select members for and convene one or more advisory groups to solicit input from a diverse range of stakeholders, including:

- (1) Students and parents;
- (2) Labor and workforce organizations;
- (3) Business and industry representatives;
- (4) Equity and social justice organizations;
- (5) A designee from the Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women;**
- ~~(5)~~ **(6)** Researchers and privacy experts; and
- ~~(6)~~ **(7)** Early education experts, school districts, and charter schools.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony and to provide comments.





February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Hearing Time: February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:02 AM

Location: State Capitol

Re: SB742 SD1 Relating to Data Sharing

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee:

We are writing **in strong support of** SB742 SD1 Relating to Data Sharing.

This bill will establish a data sharing and governance working group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, to be coordinated by the State Chief Data Officer. The current disruptions to data quality, access, and governance at the federal level, such as the removal of vital data sets, highlight the importance of strengthening our local data governance and infrastructure.

Codifying the role and purpose of a data sharing and governance working group in the Hawai'i Revised Statutes will be a significant step in improving data sharing conditions within the State. Previous ad hoc efforts to coordinate data sharing between state agencies and the public were less successful because they lacked a more formal structure for identifying and acting on data sharing challenges and opportunities. The work of the data sharing and governance working group to recommend an ongoing data sharing governance structure will be essential for supporting the Chief Data Officer's purpose to facilitate data sharing across state agencies, HRS 27-44.

With regards to the focus area of the data sharing and governance working group to identify existing barriers to seamless and frequent cross-departmental data sharing, we respectfully recommend that those findings be incorporated into the overall State Data Strategy.

With regards to the focus area of finding alignment between data sharing efforts across state and county, the City and County of Honolulu also has a Chief Data Officer. We encourage strengthening the collaboration between the State and County Chief Data Officers.



Hawai'i Data Collaborative (HDC) firmly believes that data informs our understanding of what is happening, why it is happening, and what we can do about it. Data helps identify opportunities, guide decisions, and create systems of accountability so we, as a community, can achieve better outcomes for all. HDC partners with government, philanthropy, and community-based organizations to improve data capacities and data sharing for better supporting households in need. Passing this measure will be a significant step forward for increased data sharing and generation of timely data insights that move Hawai'i forward.

**We support this measure.**

**Please support SB742. Thank you for your time and consideration.**

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Redding, PhD  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Data Collaborative



info@hawaiikidscan.org  
hawaiikidscan.org

February 17, 2025

Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz,  
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

And

Honorable Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki,  
Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

And,

The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means,

Regarding: **Support for SB742 Relating to Data Sharing**

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

**Please accept this testimony in strong support of SB742**, which establishes a working group to create a durable, cross-agency governance structure to oversee a statewide longitudinal data system (SLDS).

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawai'i has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities which in turn, build the conditions for all students in Hawai'i to thrive.

In the face of an affordability crisis, Hawai'i must better support young people to enter local jobs that enable them to survive and thrive in the state for years to come. Forty-two percent of residents are unable to afford basic necessities, and a substantial number of college graduates find themselves underemployed five years post-graduation.<sup>1</sup> The Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative recently released a report which estimates that over the next decade, nearly 30% of new workforce entrants in our state will be left "without viable opportunities to build a sustainable future."<sup>2</sup>

In response to such challenges, the Hawai'i State Department of Education (HIDOE) has invested heavily in career pathways programs and academies, and community partnerships to offer work-based learning opportunities have grown in recent years. At the same time, Hawai'i lacks a unified data system that can track and analyze all students' progress across K-12 and into

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<sup>1</sup> Burning Glass Institute and Strada Institute for the Future of Work, Talent Disrupted: Underemployment, College Graduates, and the Way Forward, 2024.

<sup>2</sup> Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative, From Crisis to Opportunity: Building Hawai'i's Workforce Resilience, January 2025.



the workforce. The result is that leaders and policymakers must cobble together disaggregated information to assess the impact of such programs on students after they graduate.

To address this, SB742 creates opportunities to:

- **Improve decision-making** by linking cross-agency data to understand the effectiveness of public investments and interventions, beginning with workforce development initiatives;
- **Bolster sustainability** by formalizing a centralized coordinating agency and governance structure to share data and developing guidelines related to new challenges such as the impact of artificial intelligence,
- **Address gaps in data collection**, such as tracking high school graduates who attend out-of-state colleges, enter the workforce directly, or join the military and;
- **Increase transparency** by establishing processes for sharing findings with key stakeholders and mechanisms to incorporate public voice.

There are several foundational pieces in Hawai'i's data landscape that will enable SB742 to be effective, including a codified SLDS and a strong track record of prioritizing disaggregated student data which enable understanding and addressing inequities in student outcomes. However, the more expansive data sharing system proposed in SB742 could have far broader-reaching output and meet the potential demonstrated by innovative systems in other states like Kentucky, California or Rhode Island. These states have seen the transformative impact of centralized data sharing on cost savings and improved policy insights and public trust.

For example, California's Cradle-to-Career Data System<sup>3</sup> provides an accessible platform for policymakers and the public, enabling real-time insights and more responsive adjustments. SB742 also seeks to emulate Kentucky and Washington's governance models, which emphasize cross-sector collaboration and the incorporation of a broad spectrum of voices. Hawai'i has a unique opportunity with SB742 to take its current cross-agency data governance policy, strengthen it to include national best practices, and codify it in statute so that it is sustainable across administrations.

By passing SB742, Hawai'i can take a proactive step toward addressing the gaps in our data systems, fostering greater equity, and ensuring that our education and workforce initiatives support a thriving and resilient state. I respectfully urge the committee to advance SB742 and help Hawai'i build the foundation for a more informed, collaborative, and effective future.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Erica Nakanishi-Stanis  
Advocacy Director  
HawaiiKidsCAN

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<sup>3</sup> AB 132: California Cradle-to-Career Data System Act ([Code 10853](#))



TIME/DATE: 10:02 AM, Wednesday, February 19, 2025  
PLACE: Room 211  
COMMITTEE: Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
BILL: SB 742, SD1, Relating to Data Sharing  
POSITION: Support

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

My name is Bill Kumagai and I serve as the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support state government's efforts to modernize its business processes and IT systems to create a more responsive state government, which ultimately benefits all Hawai'i residents, businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

Over the past several years, THG has consistently advocated for bills that enhance efficiency and streamline operations within state government. This has included our support for the bill to establish the role of the Chief Data Officer.

SB 742, SD1, aligns with our ongoing support of data management across various state entities. THG believes that data that can be securely shared across state government departments will enable state leaders and lawmakers to make more informed, data-driven policy and program decisions. As SB 742, SD1, proposes, establishing a permanent working group to coordinate inter-departmental data sharing and governance within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services is a critical first step to this transformational process.

THG would be glad to provide any additional insights on this issue. Mahalo.

Sincerely,

Bill Kumagai  
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Transform Hawai'i Government  
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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:02 a.m.

By  
Stephen Schatz, Executive Director  
Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education

#### SB 742 HD1 – RELATING TO DATA SHARING

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on SB 742 HD 1 relating to data sharing across state agencies and establishing a permanent data sharing and governance working groups within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services.

Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education (Hawai'i P-20) commends the Legislature for its interest in managing governmental data stores to provide information which allows the state to understand and work to improve Hawai'i residents' longitudinal education and workforce outcomes.

The Hawai'i Data eXchange Partnership (DXP) is a partnership of five state agencies: the Department of Education (DOE), University of Hawai'i (UH), Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), Department of Health, and Department of Human Services. This group governs Hawai'i's cross-agency, Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) that links information on individuals from infancy through early learning, K-12 and postsecondary education, and into the workforce. Since 2010, under the management of Hawai'i P-20, the DXP has established several successful data sharing agreements, strong data governance and security policies/processes, effective identity matching programming, and a targeted research and policy agenda. (More information available at: <https://www.hawaiidxp.org/>)

Hawai'i P-20 appreciates the focus on using data to inform actions around achieving living wages for the residents of Hawai'i. This aligns with work already being done through the Hawai'i Graduates for Hawai'i's Future (HGHF). HGHF is the commitment from the P-20 Council, consisting of education, business, policymakers, and community leaders, to work collaboratively to align educational programs with workforce needs and economic

development in the state. Under the P-20 Council's leadership, there are high-wage, high-skill, high-demand areas of focus to track postsecondary graduates to Hawai'i's workforce: Healthcare, Information Technology, Education, and Skilled Trades. Link to HGHF: <https://hawaiigraduatesforhawaiisfuture.org/goal/goal-4/>

SB 742 HD 1 states that additional data sharing could link high school graduates directly to workforce data. DLIR Unemployment Insurance (UI) is generally the data source used for linked workforce data in Hawai'i. However this data is collected to determine unemployment benefits and is incomplete when used for workforce outcomes. It does not include information on those individuals who are employed by the Federal government, self-employed, or work as part of the cash economy. The UI data can also only be matched by Social Security Number (SSN). Our current system can track UH graduates into the workforce, but not high school graduates who directly enter the workforce, as the DOE does not collect SSNs. Other states and jurisdictions have endeavored to link driver's license information to students and their employment outcomes, but we are not aware of a comprehensive solution.

One promising effort to close employment information gaps is reflected in SB 1942, which would add the Department of Taxation to the list of state agencies sharing data through the SLDS via HRS 27-7. It would allow the Department of Taxation to link wage information by SSNs to UH education records.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this measure.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 — 10:02 a.m.

**The Workforce Development Council supports SB 742 SD1, Relating to Data Sharing.**

Dear Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

We are Keith DeMello and Tuia'ana Scanlan, members of the State of Hawai'i Workforce Development Council (WDC) delegated with the authority to represent the WDC's legislative policy positions. Pursuant to [HRS Chapter 202](#), the WDC is an advisory commission comprised of both public and private-sector representatives selected by the Governor to serve on the basis of their interest in and knowledge of workforce development programs in Hawai'i and how to support economic development throughout the state.

**The WDC supports SB 742 SD1**, which establishes a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services and requires the Working Group to submit annual reports to the Legislature.

Integrated data systems are critical to addressing Hawai'i's workforce challenges. At the WDC's Workforce Synergy Summit in December 2024, this was a need that was emphasized as essential for the success of action plans under the [Hawai'i State Workforce Unified Plan](#)'s Four Pillars:

Pillar #1: Alignment with Economic Growth

The proposed data system would provide crucial insights into labor market trends, helping us better understand and address issues of labor shortages, living wages, and economic diversification. This aligns with our goal of connecting economic development with workforce development to create sustainable career pathways.

Pillar #2: Education and Training Alliances

The proposed governance structure would strengthen these connections, allowing us to better evaluate the effectiveness of training programs and ensure they align with actual workforce needs. This supports our goal of building stronger bridges with Hawai'i's educators and training providers.

Pillar #3: Inclusivity and Equity

A comprehensive longitudinal data system would help identify gaps in service delivery and measure the effectiveness of efforts toward meaningful integration and collaboration among all stakeholders in the workforce development space.



Pillar #4: Workforce Synergy

A unified data governance structure would facilitate the collaboration we seek to foster among workforce development stakeholders.

We also view this bill as a crucial step toward creating a more responsive and effective workforce development system. By establishing a robust governance structure for data sharing, Hawai'i can better:

- Track the effectiveness of education and workforce programs;
- Identify emerging trends and opportunities in our labor market;
- Make data-informed decisions about resource allocation; and
- Ensure accountability in workforce development initiatives.

We respectfully urge the committee to pass this bill, as it will provide the data infrastructure needed to better serve Hawai'i's workforce needs and support economic growth across our islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith DeMello  
Member, WDC

Tuia'ana Scanlan  
Member, WDC

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

My name is Matt Stevens, and I am submitting testimony in strong support of SB 742, which seeks to establish a Data Sharing and Governance Working Group to improve data-driven decision-making in Hawai'i.

As a social impact professional with over 20 years of experience in data analysis, data science, and collaborative data sharing in the public sector, I have worked extensively at the intersection of policy, technology, and workforce development. My career has been dedicated to helping governments, nonprofits, and educational institutions leverage data to drive better outcomes for communities. I submit testimony both as the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative and as someone who brings this experience and context from other roles.

Hawai'i is making critical investments in workforce development, education, economic growth, and public services—but without a modern, coordinated data infrastructure, we lack the ability to assess impact, adjust programs, and ensure the best outcomes for residents.

SB 742 is a practical, high-impact step toward fixing this issue by bringing together key stakeholders to create secure, responsible, and efficient data-sharing agreements that will strengthen economic mobility, workforce development, and service delivery across multiple sectors.

Hawai'i spends millions of dollars annually on workforce development and related programs, yet we do not have the tools to fully measure whether these investments are producing strong, equitable results.

For example:

- Workforce programs lack access to timely, linked data on employment and wages, making it difficult to determine which training programs actually lead to sustainable, well-paying careers.
- Public agencies spend significant staff time responding to one-off data-sharing requests, rather than using a secure, automated system that provides real-time insights.
- Local businesses, educators, and workforce development organizations struggle to access critical labor market trends, limiting their ability to align training programs with employer needs.

The inability to connect, analyze, and act on this data in real time means program dollars may not be going where they are needed most.

Other states have already solved this problem by establishing secure data-sharing agreements that balance privacy, security, and usability—Hawai'i should do the same.

One of the most critical lessons from my experience leading a statewide data-sharing initiative in Colorado is that this work requires dedicated staff capacity.

In a prior role—working for an education technology startup under contract with the Colorado Workforce Development Council—I served as Data Trust Lead and was responsible for:

- Coordinating efforts between governance meetings to keep agencies aligned.
- Synthesizing stakeholder concerns to ensure data-sharing agreements moved forward efficiently.

- Running pilot analyses and proof-of-concept studies to demonstrate early wins and build confidence in the system.

Without a dedicated staff member filling this role, data-sharing conversations can stall or become overly theoretical—leading to delays, frustration, and missed opportunities for impact.

In Colorado, this role played a critical role in securing legislative support for [Colorado HB22-1349](#), which allocated state funding for both a technical data system and the staffing resources necessary to create a permanent position within the Colorado Department of Higher Education.

SB 742 provides a critical investment in staffing resources to ensure the working group is action-oriented and results-driven. A two-year proof-of-concept model, like the one used in Colorado, could provide early wins while allowing time to transition responsibilities into a permanent state role.

This bill will ensure Hawai'i builds a modern, secure, and coordinated data-sharing framework by:

Establishing clear governance rules so agencies can share data efficiently while protecting privacy and security.

- Building a secure infrastructure for data exchange to replace outdated, manual data-sharing methods.
- Ensuring that key stakeholders—including workforce, education, economic development, and human services leaders—are working together to improve decision-making and outcomes.

Importantly, SB 742 is not just about workforce development. While workforce and economic development are major priorities, this bill also lays the foundation for broader impact across public health, social services, and housing.

SB 742 is a strategic, cost-effective investment that will:

- Maximize the return on taxpayer-funded programs by improving how we measure outcomes.
- Reduce inefficiencies in government operations by streamlining data-sharing processes.
- Improve economic mobility for Hawai'i residents by strengthening workforce development strategies.

I strongly urge the committee to advance this bill with full support for the staffing and infrastructure necessary to make it successful.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Matt Stevens  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Workforce Funders Collaborative  
[matt@hawaiiwork.org](mailto:matt@hawaiiwork.org)