



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1488, H.D. 1, RELATING TO RESIDENCE FOR TUITION PURPOSES.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2022 **TIME:** 3:10 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229 and Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or
Lori N. Tanigawa, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of the bill is to simplify the residency determination for the State's high school students and recent graduates to enroll in postsecondary education and training at the University of Hawai'i by considering high school seniors and recent high school graduates, including those who choose to return from out of state and pursue higher education in Hawai'i, as residents under certain conditions.

Section 6 of article X of the Hawai'i State Constitution gives the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university." Section 6 further provides: "[t]his section shall not limit the power of the legislature to enact laws of statewide concern. The legislature shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern." If the Committee decides to pass this bill, we recommend an amendment that adds a statement identifying this bill as a law of statewide concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Written Only

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/17/2022

Time: 03:10 PM

Location: CR 229 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Interim Superintendent Keith Hayashi
Hawaii State Department of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1488, HD1 RELATING TO RESIDENCE FOR TUITION PURPOSES.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the tuition residency rules for the University of Hawaii to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus, including any community college, to individuals who have obtained a Hawaii high school diploma or equivalent credential and are working toward an undergraduate degree, under certain conditions. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1488, HD1.

Simplifying the residency determination for admission into the University of Hawaii (UH) system will positively impact students who wish to pursue higher education within the UH system and reduce barriers students may face when applying to UH. Further, extending the resident tuition fee at any UH campus to individuals who earn a Hawaii high school diploma or equivalent credential, including those who initially enroll in an out-of-state institution of higher education but later return to Hawaii to complete their undergraduate studies, increases access to postsecondary education in-state.

Increasing access to postsecondary education for all students is in alignment with a larger collaborative effort in workforce development, as a significant number of jobs, particularly those affording a living wage, require postsecondary credentials.

The Department defers to the University of Hawaii on the implementation of these changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 3:10 p.m.

By

Hae K. Okimoto, Associate President for Student Affairs
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1488 HD1 – RELATING TO RESIDENCE FOR TUITION PURPOSES

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill (HB) 1488 HD1 relating to residence for tuition purposes. The University of Hawai'i (UH) strongly supports the bill.

HB 1488 HD1 would recognize graduates of Hawai'i high schools or high school equivalency programs as residents for the purpose of in-state tuition at the UH. HB 1488 HD1 would recognize local graduates as residents for in-state tuition at UH for up to eight years following high school graduation.

UH believes that simplifying the determination of residency would reduce barriers to local students enrolling at UH to pursue additional education and training. In addition, the bill simplifies the residency determination for high school students and recent graduates who are homeless and/or have complex family circumstances.

Hawai'i's "college going rate" of high school graduates declined during the pandemic, dropping from 55% enrolling immediately after high school graduation to 50%. The decline in college going rates to UH disproportionately affected low income, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander graduates, and college going to community colleges dropped nearly 25% from Class of 2019 to Class of 2021. This may be attributed to the added uncertainties that the current health pandemic has created in the lives of our students. Recognizing Hawai'i's high school graduates as Hawai'i residents enrolling at UH communicates the value that the state places on investing in graduates' continuing their education and training and streamlines the process of admission to UH.

UH notes that if the Senate Higher Education Committee decides to limit residency to recent high school graduates (within one or two years of high school graduation), then it would become unnecessary to specify that the student must be working toward an undergraduate degree, as stated in (3)(B).

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



Kamehameha Schools®

Senate Committee on Higher Education

Time: 3:10 p.m.

Date: March 17, 2022

Where: Conference Room 229

TESTIMONY

By Dr. Wai‘ale‘ale Sarsona

Vice President, Hi‘ialo

RE: HB 1488, HD1, Relating to Residence for Tuition Purposes

E ka Luna Ho‘omalua Kim, ka Hope Luna Ho‘omalua Kidani, a me nā lālā o ke Kōmike, aloha kākou! My name is Dr. Wai‘ale‘ale Sarsona, Vice President of Hi‘ialo at Kamehameha Schools.

Kamehameha Schools **supports** HB 1488, HD1, which requires the tuition residency rules for the University of Hawai‘i to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawai‘i campus, including any community college, to individuals who have obtained a Hawai‘i high school diploma or equivalent credential and are working toward an undergraduate degree, under certain conditions.

We firmly believe in the positive and transformational power of education and support the expansion of the criteria to qualify for resident tuition fees in the University of Hawai‘i system. The amendment of the University of Hawai‘i’s criteria to determine resident tuition eligibility will remove a significant barrier for many Hawai‘i students eager to enroll at the University of Hawai‘i to continue their educational journey and training.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an educational organization striving to restore our people through education and advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership. Hānai i ke keiki; ola ka lāhui.

‘A‘ohe ‘ulu e loa‘a i ka pōkole o ka lou. There is no success without preparation. **Please advance this measure.**

HB-1488-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 12:48:40 PM

Testimony for HRE on 3/17/2022 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian F Jordan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Any reasonable measure to ensure a students has an opportunity to further their education is welcome. This bill seems to fit that criteria.

HB-1488-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 5:30:13 PM

Testimony for HRE on 3/17/2022 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Cigainero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committe Chair and Members: Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1488. This bill would allow former Hawaii residence that moved away to register in college for in-state tuition if they return within 8 years. We are all aware of the number of young people who graduate from High School and leave our beautiful state seeking opportunities and employment out of state; Many of these youth realize within a couple of years that their hearts are bound to the island and return to find that they cannot enroll in college unless they pay out-of-state tuition Let's welcome these young people home and make it possible for them to contribute to the welfare of our state by getting more education, at a cost they can afford.

Thank you for your consideration and I urge your support of HB 1488.

Barbara Cigainero Keaau, HI 96749

HB-1488-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 8:33:05 AM

Testimony for HRE on 3/17/2022 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joan Pieper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I agree with this. If one of our former residents want to return to attend College here, they should not have to pay the non-resident tuition.

HB-1488-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 9:23:57 AM

Testimony for HRE on 3/17/2022 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Rabb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1488, which expands the number of people who can qualify for resident tuition at colleges and universities. Education needs to be affordable. Hawaii needs as many educated people as we can get. This is a win-win.

Mahalo,

Renee Rabb

Keaau, Hi 96749