

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:35:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lance Jyo	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB 1561. As a WIOA Mandated Partner, McKinley CSA (Adult Education) is tasked to provided a comprehensive array of services to include educational support programs (Adult Basic Education, High School Equivalency Credential, Workforce Development Diploma, etc.), employability training and access to services provided by community, business, armed forces, workforce partners. This also includes support to those currently incarcerated (GED preparation and testing, employabilty and soft skills training). HB 1561 enables CSA's to continue to provide our Workfroce Readiness Efforts. Mahalo.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:42:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
KURT GINOZA	Testifying for MCSA MAUI	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill. In these trying times, any help to increase the employability of our citizens is a high priority. There are many stakeholders who did not achieve success in the regular k-12 educational pathway. This gives them an option to help move forward.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:44:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chad H Okinaka	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The establishment of two full-time equivalent Adult Workforce Readiness Program Coordinator positions is critical for the economy of Hawaii. These positions will provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates that will help make Hawaii's Economy strong. One of the goals of Education is to prepare our students for the Workforce. This bill will definitely help the Department of Education fulfill this goal.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:01:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cailee Estes	Testifying for MCSA-Kauai Campus	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We feel that it is so important to be able to offer the workforce readiness diploma program here at the McKinley Community School for Adults- Kauai. We are passionate about creating opportunities for all of our students and helping them grow and this program allows us to do so. By providing this opportunity, we will be able to continue to support the communities we love.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
McKINLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

634 PENSACOLA STREET, ROOM 216
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

Telephone: (808) 594-0540 FAX: (808) 594-0544

March 31, 2022

Testimony in Strong Support of HB1561, HD1, SD1

Measure Title: Relating to Education
Report Title: Department of Education; Adult Education; Workforce Development Diploma
Description: Establishes and appropriate funds for an adult workforce readiness program. Appropriates funds for one fulltime equivalent adult workforce readiness program coordinator for McKinley Community School for Adults and Waipahu Community School for Adults.

McKinley Community School for Adults strongly supports HB1561, HD1, SD1 to establish within the Department of Education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates. Requires the Department to designate schools, including adult community schools to participate in the program. This workforce readiness diploma program will provide additional employment opportunities for our students.

While our school's primary mission is to graduate our students with a GED or HISET high school equivalency diploma, there are special populations of students without a high school diploma such as: individuals with disabilities; individuals from economically disadvantaged families, including low-income; individuals preparing for non-traditional fields; single parents, including pregnant women; out of work individuals; English learners; homeless individuals; youth who are in, or have aged out of the foster care system; chronically unemployed or underemployed; or individuals who were recently released from our correctional facilities who are able to enter the workforce without a high school diploma but need to complete a workforce preparation program to meet the minimum requirements for job entry.

Hawaii Labor Market Dynamics reports that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) has identified 11 projected entry level job openings that do not require a high school diploma to include transitional jobs such as sales persons, waiters, and waitresses, cashiers, food preparation, maids and housekeepers, cooks, groundskeepers, laborers, and movers. Employers are in dire need of a basic education and job training programs that we the community schools can provide to meet the minimum qualifications for employment entry into these less skilled jobs.

Stakeholder engagement across education, the business industry and communities are essential to the success of the program that can lead to a job for this special population and reduce a dependence on social services. The Hawaii Community School for Adults is strongly committed to preparing our students for Hawaii's workforce and we are prepared to implement our workforce development program. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB1561, HD1, SD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen H. Sanpei".

Helen H. Sanpei, Principal

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:28:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Ginlack	Testifying for Dept. of Education	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Now that we can safely say that covid-19 is almost behind us, we can get back to initiating and creating programs that will continue to ensure that when our students leave the system, they will be suitably placed in the job market.

After reading H.B. 1561, there is a continuing need for the high schools, adult education community schools, community colleges and other employers in the community to support the workforce preparation program.

We all know how difficult it was getting students involved in different programs during the pandemic. I strongly believe that this is the time we must implement H.B. 1561 to kickstart the many programs that will help our graduates and non-graduates find employment.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:43:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rhys Ragasa	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults - Moanalua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As ELA Coordinator for the Moanalua campus, bill HB 1561 has my full support. It is crucial for us as adult educators that we help integrate our students into society by providing them the necessary tools to acquire jobs and higher levels of education. This bill will ensure that students who are ready to take that step will be able to make the necessary connections, receive the proper education, and have the support required to further their careers. Ultimately, this bill has the students' best interest in mind and is the epitome of what adult education stands for.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:53:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Sanpei	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Ryan Sanpei and I am in support of HB1561.

The one thing that I hear from the Workforce time and time again is that the new hires are not "ready to work". Many of the employees apply with the necessary educational requirements, but lack the soft and hard skills that are necessary for being a good employee. HB1561 will help to support many students by providing them with the opportunity to receive the necessary entry level training for employment throughout the State.

Thank you for your time!

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:56:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raden Nagamine	Testifying for Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1561 as it supports work readiness programs that is much needed in Hawaii.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
McKINLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS
634 PENSACOLA STREET, ROOM 216
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814

Telephone: (808) 594-0540 FAX: (808) 594-0540

March 31, 2022

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Ways and Means Chairperson
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Ways and Means Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of HB 1561, Relating to Education

Honorable Senator Dela Cruz and Honorable Senator Keith-Agaran:

My name is Mark T. Nakamura and I am one of the Vice Principals for the McKinley Community School for Adults (MCSA). I am providing written testimony today to express my support for HB 1561 relating to the establishment of a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates.

Presently, the Community School for Adults (CSA) services a variety of clientele in the community from juvenile age individuals pursuing their high school equivalency (HSE) certification to senior citizens who are looking to improve their English language competency for personal development or to bring forth more job opportunities. Through our various services the CSA supports individuals to get workforce ready through our programs whether it is through credentials or via classroom instruction to build work related skills. Thus, the establishment of a workforce readiness program would further support our clientele by helping to empower and prepare them for the workforce, while also supporting them in their desire to better themselves and contribute to a more educated community. Further, the establishment of a workforce readiness program provides an important community service that supports students of all ages and backgrounds. Although helping an individual attain their high school equivalency or contributing to an individual's growth in the English language are important outcomes that contribute to the workforce, the establishment of a workforce readiness program will further provide individuals with an additional resource to support them in their desire to grow, improve, and better oneself. This aspect is particularly important considering the state of our economy and job opportunities due to the pandemic.

The establishment of a workforce readiness program via HB 1561 will allow our campuses to further service employers and the overall community to develop individuals occupationally which contributes to a better community. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark T. Nakamura".

Mark T. Nakamura,
Vice Principal, MCSA

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 4:58:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt Wong	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Community School for Adults is working hard to provide adult education across our state. Staffing classes is always a challenge. By having a full time, qualified instructor we would be able to provide rigorous, robust workforce development instruction to countless individuals in need. I strongly support HB1561 and its effort to provide our local communities a concrete and meaningful pathway to a higher quality of life and work. This bill empowers community schools and builds capacity within our state system to its serve citizens and future generations.

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: 04/05/2022

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: CR 211 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 1561, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes within the Department of Education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates. Requires the Department to designate schools, including adult community schools, to participate in the program. Appropriates funds for the Workforce Readiness Program and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) Adult Workforce Readiness Program Coordinator positions. Effective 7/1/2051. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1561, HD1, SD1 and appreciates the budgetary appropriation included in this measure to continue its workforce readiness programs, but requests that any additional funding does not affect the Department's top budget priorities to restore funds that were reduced as a result of the fiscal fallout from COVID-19 and the funding for existing budget shortfalls that were included in the Department's supplemental budget request. Without those funds, the Department will face severe constraints on its ability to continue to promote equity and access to an array of educational opportunities and needed resources and support for all students.

The McKinley and Waipahu Community Schools for Adults, as recipients of the federal

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant, have been collaboratively working with the Workforce Development Council, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and the Department of Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, along with employers in the job market and the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, to develop an inter-agency workforce development program for youth and adults with an expressed interest in pursuing trades and other employment opportunities. The appropriation and positions provided in HB 1561, HD1, SD1 will enhance this work.

The Department is strongly committed to supporting, strengthening, and advancing a consolidated statewide effort to prepare students for the career pipeline with the appropriate skills, attributes, certifications, and/or post-secondary credits to contribute to the vitality of Hawaii's workforce and considers the Community Schools for Adults an integral part of this pipeline.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1561, H.D. 1, S.D. 1

April 5, 2022
10:30 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference

RELATING TO EDUCATION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 1561, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, adds a new section to Chapter 302A to:

- 1) establish a Workforce Readiness Program within the Department of Education (DOE) to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates;
- 2) require the DOE to designate schools, including adult community schools, to participate in the program; and 3) establish 2.00 full-time equivalent positions and appropriate an unspecified sum in general funds for FY 23.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 11:42:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Watanabe	Testifying for MCSA - Moanalua Campus	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of establishing a workforce readiness program. This will provide great opportunities for students to obtain non-traditional DOE certificates and enable them to pursue post high school work.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 1:08:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Callahan	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill as I have first hand knowledge of the benefits of the workforce readiness programs offered at McKinley CSA. Our Adult Basic Education and English Language Acquisition classes, substitute teacher training and educational assistant certification exams have a direct impact on employment and employability for our population.

Additionally, we facilitate workforce readiness through our partnerships with HiEmployment, Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services, Hale Kipa and others.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
April 05, 2022

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

Dear Senator Dela Cruz, and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: HB1561 HD1 SD1 Relating to Education

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **supports HB1561 HD1 SD1** which establishes within the department of education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates. Requires the department to designate schools, including adult community schools, to participate in the program. Appropriates funds for the workforce readiness program and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) adult workforce readiness program coordinator positions.

The Council is currently working on a Highschool to work pilot project in partnership with Waipahu Highschool and Leeward Community College to produce Registered Behavioral Therapists (RBTs). This pilot project aims to increase the amount of RBTs within the state to address the state-wide shortage of RBTs. RBTs work with individuals with autism in school, community, and home settings to work on their behavioral skills. RBTs are a critical job position that helps individuals with autism integrate and be a part of our community. The Council supports this measure to make pilot projects like this streamlined and the status quo for our workforce in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **supporting HB1561 HD1 SD1.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus".

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 7:35:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pat Anbe	Testifying for Waipahu Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB1561

On behalf of the Waipahu Community School for Adults and our students, I am writing in support of HB1561.

As a mandatory partner of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), the Hawaii Adult Schools are tasked with the very important mission of helping our students obtain employment or further their education.

Currently, the adult schools receive a limited amount of State General Funds to cover the operational costs of our campuses on every island in the State. For many years we have maintained our salaried positions with these funds, but have not been able to create a new, unique salaried position that would help develop career and work opportunities for our students. The extra positions afforded to us in this Bill will allow us to create unique and innovative educational opportunities for our students to enter or reenter the workforce.

Thank you for allowing this time to provide testimony in support of HB1561.

Sincerely,

Pat Anbe, Principal

Waipahu Community School for Adults

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 8:17:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ROBERTA TANAKA	Testifying for McKinley Community School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support for HB 1651.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 9:54:51 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lehua Brown	Testifying for DOE - Honolulu District - KMR	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Sirs and Madams,

I am a Complex Academic Officer in the the Kaimuki McKinley Roosevelt Complex Area within the Honolulu District and fully support the passing of HB1561. I urge you all to do the same as it is critical to continue to support our students in preparing then for Hawaii's workforce and beyond. Such an investment in our students in an investment in our future community contributors and workforce on whom we all will rely upon as citizens and consumers. You have the opportunity to ensure that our students will have the needed available resources to support them in successfully completing the needed educational programs and trainings to compete in a global society for job security and pathways where they can contribute and apply their knowledge, talents, and skills. Please support the funding of the workforce readiness program and two full-time personnel to ensure its success and support to students.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,

Lehua Brown

LATE

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 5:58:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

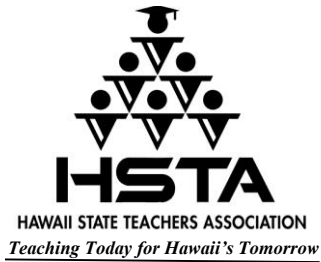
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
michelle yamamoto	Testifying for Mc Kinley community school @moanalua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1561

Establishes within the Department of Education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, preapprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates. Requires the Department to designate schools, including adult community schools, to participate in the program. Appropriates funds for the Workforce Readiness Program and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) Adult Workforce Readiness Program Coordinator positions.HB 1561

Michelle Yamamoto



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 Morrison
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RE: HB 1561, HD1, SD1 - RELATING TO EDUCATION

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports HB 1561, HD1, SD1** relating to education. This bill will establish within the Department of Education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate and workforce development degrees, pre-apprenticeship and other industry-recognized certificates.

HSTA supports workforce readiness programs. Across the country, as well as in Hawai'i, a majority of job openings are for positions that do not require a college or post-graduate degree. **Data from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations tells us that more than 70% of jobs in the state don't require more than a high school diploma.**

This kind of vocational training, currently called career and technical education (CTE), should be a viable alternative to college, which becomes increasing cost-prohibitive with each passing year. According to a national study, only 25% of job-seekers said they received vocational training in high school, while more than 40% saying they wished they had received more.

This bill will allow that more than 40% of Hawai'i high school graduates, who do not want to attend a four-year college, to have more opportunities to receive industry-based skills and certifications required to join the competitive 21st century job market. By creating this workforce development program, appropriating funds and staffing, the legislature will make a strong statement about their support for our students, both young and old.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support this bill.**



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1561: Relating to Education – Adult Workforce Readiness Program

April 2, 2022

To: Senator Dela Cruz (Chair), Senator Keith-Agaran (Vice Chair) and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

From: Joni N. Chun, Executive Director, Susannah Wesley Community Center

Hearing: 10:30AM, Tuesday, April 5, 2022, Conference Room 211

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1561 which establishes within the department of Education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associates degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates and other industry-recognized certificates and appropriates funds for the program and for two full-time equivalent adult workforce readiness program coordinator positions.

I am Joni Chun, Executive Director of the Susannah Wesley Community Center (SWCC), a non-profit organization located in the heart of Kalihi with 20 years of experience providing alternative learning opportunities to disadvantaged students (16 years old to adults). **SWCC supports HB 1561** as it creates the starting infrastructure and funding to enhance alternative pathways for the disadvantaged to advance their education, develop workforce readiness, enhance household income.

On behalf of the Susannah Wesley Community Center, we thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony and reiterate our **support for HB 1561**.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 12:21:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan S. Hayashi	Testifying for Workforce Development Council	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DATE: April 2, 2022

TO: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

FROM: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Alan Hayashi, Chair

SUBJECT: HB1561,HD1,SD1 “RELATING TO EDUCATION”

Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

My name is Alan Hayashi, Chair of the Workforce Development Council (WDC). **The WDC stands in strong support of this measure HB1561, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO EDUCATION.** This legislation can supplement the availability of timely training and development of much needed skill sets for Hawaii’s workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Alan S. Hayashi, Chair

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:29:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candace Sasaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Totally support this bill.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:29:26 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eren Avegalio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of House Bill 1561. With the way the world is changing, students need options and programs to support entering into the workforce. There is a greater need for building job readiness skills and work ethics. Our students can greatly benefit from a workforce readiness preparation program. House Bill 1561 will meet this need. I support House Bill 1561.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:33:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kylee Yamamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1561 and its mission to help provide support and education for students who are entering the employment industry upon graduating/completing an adult school program.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:58:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shelby Hamamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill 1561. Appropriating funds for the Workforce Readiness Program within the adult community schools will enable students to be more employable in the community and beyond. This will further opportunities for future career success. Please support House Bill 1561, Mahalo!

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:59:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dean Sakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a part time teacher with the McKinley Community School for Adults, Moanalua Campus, I've had first hand experience teaching students and I am certain that having a Work Force Development program with positions funded will ensure that the program will be sustained and provide continuous educational opportunities to the students.

The students that I have taught learn life lessons skills and knowledge so that they can become a productive, reliable, and a trusted employee that employers desire. Many of the students don't have other alternatives and are counting on adult education and the Work Force Development program to become productive citizens of our community.

thank you,

Dean Sakamoto

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:04:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jensen Apana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the Act to establish a workforce readiness program within the department of education's community school for adults program. As a current HSE teacher, I believe there should be an alternative for those that have trouble attaining their selected HSE. With the understanding of a program that will implement supports a career-ready workforce, I feel it would provide current and future learners the opportunity to achieve success towards adulthood.

Mahalo!

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:04:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taijen Chen	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Tai Jen Chen. I support HB 1561 because it gives students, like me an opportunity to learn skills for a good job. Thank you!

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:12:43 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yoon Ok Won	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this Bill. As a former registrar I understand and appreciate the value of appropriate training and certification to enable students to get a job. With the numerous job openings that need to be filled, adult education can provide the appropriate job training to get these students into the world of work.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:14:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andy Ngo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this HB1561 that will help my family and other Vietnamese receive the right training to get a job. Please pass this Bill.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:16:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scot Seo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I think this is a good Bill that is badly needed to support our community. Too many of our community members are without jobs and in need of educational opportunities that allow them to get a job.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:18:42 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Pangilinan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a retired educator I firmly believe this program will help those in need of a job. The training and experience will allow them to be prepared for job interviews and placement into jobs of their choice.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:24:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aukai Pia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair DelaCruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB1561. As a former student at McKinley Community School for Adults, I can honestly say that the programs offered by the school helped me to get a job. Without the education I received from this institution, I don't know what I would have done. I am currently a wage earner supporting my family. Thank you

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 2:32:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin Uehara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Supporting this bill to help people better themselves.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 3:06:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amie Yee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB1516. Please approve this bill because it would ultimately support our adult students to obtain the post high school skills that they need and have access to work readiness programs. Thank you for considering and approving!

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 3:22:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tina Matsuo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB1561

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

In support of HB1561

RELATING TO EDUCATION

Dear Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz and Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran,

I am testifying in support of HB1561. Please support this bill as it will benefit both our Waipahu and McKinley Community School for Adults students with opportunities for workforce readiness.

Thank you for your time and consideration to support HB1561.

Sincerely,

Tina Matsuo

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 3:35:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharon Rokuta	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is vital to support the Workforce program at our Community Schools.

Each adult should be given the necessary tools and resources to become a contributing member of our community and state.

Many of them come to study and train themselves for an opportunity to join the workforce and to better their lives with their families.

Your consideration of this bill is highly recommended and appreciated.

Thank you very much.

I am writing in support of HB 1561 to establish a workforce readiness program in Hawai'i that will operate under the Community Schools for Adults. I believe this bill addresses an area of great need in the state, and it is well worth the investment to create alternative educational opportunities to build a robust workforce. Over the course of the past thirty years, public high schools have focused more on academic preparation for post high school study than on preparing students for their careers upon graduation at the completion of twelfth grade, and rightly so. In the ever changing and more complex world, all students need a solid academic foundation. It provides the basis to enter an apprenticeship or training program, community college, or college or university, but it is not enough.

As we know, sadly, not all students are ready or able to matriculate and complete high school in the traditional four year model and therefore aren't prepared to enter the traditional post-high school pathways. For a wide variety of reasons, personal and societal, too many have to drop out. It is nothing less than tragic when this happens. It is a serious loss for both the student and the community which, if protracted over time, can end in dire consequences. Without a basic education and individual is facing dire odds in terms on virtually every front in life. HB 1561 will help reduce the potential for long term loss and hardship by providing these untapped individuals another pathway and a place where they can "drop back in", to build skills and knowledge and pursue an array of meaningful and productive employment. It gives them choices rather than a life of endless challenges. It gives them opportunities for better paying jobs that allow them to raise and support families who enjoy a good quality of life and will, in turn, pass this on and contribute to the overall quality of life for all citizens in Hawai'i.

HB 1561 won't help only those who have had to leave high school. It also offers opportunities for those who are in the workforce in areas that are becoming outdated or obsolete because of technology or other changes. It gives them a chance to retool and enter new careers that will provide them with future opportunities. It is a win-win for the state.

The benefits that will result from passage of HB 1561 cannot be overestimated and I fully support it.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Stacey B. Roberts,
March 31, 2022

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 5:32:06 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherman WK Tom	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1561 to establish a workforce readiness program at McKinley Community School for Adults to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates.

Therefore, I am submitting my testimony in favor of this bill.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 5:36:21 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barbara Tom	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1561 to establish a workforce readiness program at McKinley Community School for Adults to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates.

Therefore, I am submitting my testimony in favor of this bill.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 5:46:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
SuAnne Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairperson Dela Cruz, Senator Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee,

I am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill HB1561.

My name is SuAnne Kim and I teach Basic English Skills to Adult English Learners at McKinley Community School for Adults.

I fully support this measure, as establishing a workforce readiness program will provide opportunities for adult students to learn English and work towards earning an associate degree, workforce development diploma or certificate, and join the workforce in our community. In my experience, these adult learners are eager to learn English and become contributing members of our local community. By supporting this bill, adult learners will be able to gain skills that will place them in an appropriate employment within their skill set.

Please vote in support of House Bill HB1561. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

SuAnne Kim

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 6:18:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dane Yonamine	Testifying for McKinley Community School	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because it provides essential funding to the Adult Community Schools to continue its outstanding services to the community.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 8:10:20 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gladys Ozaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of HB1561 for the establishment of adult workforce readiness programs and funding to support one each full time program coordinator at McKinley & Waipahu Community Schools for Adults. Students involved in these programs will have opportunities to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, certifications, and industry recognized certificates to better prepare them for advanced degrees and/or towards gainful employment. This bill will benefit students and adults in the Farrington Community. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB1561.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 8:22:07 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karie Izuo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1561 as there are many individuals that can benefit from educational and training programs to better equip them with skills needed to support themselves and their families in the real world. Students in the Farrington Community will definitely benefit from these programs. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of HB1561.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 8:52:00 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Wong	Testifying for MCSA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 1561 as the Workforce Development Program meets the needs and prepares those who are entering Hawaii's workforce. The program equips our students with basic education to enter various job training opportunities. Mahalo and Aloha!

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 9:03:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacquelyn R Brown	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this Bill. I believe this program is sorely needed in the State of Hawaii to provide more opportunities for our residents of all ages.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 9:13:03 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liane Okamitsu	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill because it will help adults in underserved communities join the local workforce and become active and productive members of our society.

Please approve this bill.

Mahalo,

Liane Okamitsu

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 9:22:55 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fanar Jarjees	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support House Bill 1561 (HB1561) pertain to the establishment of a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees within the DOE's Adult Community Schools Program.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 1:23:02 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J.Leong	Testifying for McKinley CSA - Moanalua Campus	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1561 to contribute to our state with a well prepared work force.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 11:30:23 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Tagawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I humbly ask for your support of the Community School for Adults workforce readiness program that provides opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates. As a retiree of the DOE Adult Community School and a current GED Proctor, I whole heartedly believe in and support the continued services to our students to become more work ready in our community. Thank you and grateful for your support.

Lynn Tagawa

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2022 3:01:27 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Takeba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill that will help my friends who live in Waianae and are looking for a job. Many of them need this program to help them with the process of securing a job. Thank you

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 1:25:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristen Izuo	Testifying for MCSA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of House Bill 1561 that establishes a workforce readiness program and provides opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, preapprenticeship certification and other industry-recognized certificates. This measure will provide greater access to programs and give students a better chance for success in the workforce and in life. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony in support of HB1561.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 4:19:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lilian Yamasaki	Testifying for McKinley Community School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators Dela Cruz and Keith-Agaran,

I ask for your support of HB1561 pertaining to the establishment of a workforce readiness program.

As an ESL teacher at McKinley Community School for Adults, I consider such a program of vital importance, particularly since the pandemic has altered the labor scene in a myriad of ways. This has compelled workers to have to "shift gears" in preparation over the changes. A work force readiness program is therefore essential to provide workers with opportunities to enrich their skills and be contributing members of our community.

Mahalo,

Lilian Yamasaki

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 10:33:07 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarmina Scales	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill passing because the workforce ready program and other certificates/education related to this bill will be highly beneficial to members of our society and offer them a more competitive portfolio when looking for jobs. Our community can only gain strength by passing this bill which is needed at this time.

April 3, 2022

TO: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Deborah K. Miyao
Retired State of Hawaii Department of Hawaii Educational Specialist for Adult Education
and Acting Adult Basic Education State Director

RE: H.B. 1561
Hearing: Tuesday, April 5, 2022, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference, 10:30 AM

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Good Morning Representative Dela Cruz, Representative Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means. I am Deborah K. Miyao, a retired State of Hawaii Department of Education Educational Specialist in Adult Education and Acting Adult Basic Education State Director. I strongly support HB 1651.

A workforce readiness diploma program by Hawaii's Community Schools for Adults (CSAs) would highly benefit adults who are 16 years of age or older, are out of school youth, and are those who lack a high school diploma and/or basic skills. The CSAs would deliver a customized workforce readiness curriculum that would lead to a skilled workforce by offering academic career preparation and job readiness skills with a potential for pre-apprenticeships. An appropriation of State funds earmarked for a workforce readiness diploma program is seriously needed for the development, implementation, and coordination of a workforce readiness diploma program for Hawaii's adult learners.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit a written testimony for HB1561.

Tuesday, April 5, 2022

Testimony Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

TO: Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee

FROM: Laverne Moore

Former Co-chairperson of Hawaii State Adult & Community Education Advisory Council & Special Education Teacher at McKinley High School

RE: HB 1561, HD1, SD1

POSITION: SRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Senator Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee.

I am in strong support of HB 1561, HD1, establishing within the department of education a workforce readiness program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees and workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates.

As a special education teacher at McKinley High School, I see this legislation as a means to increase graduation rates by adding another component to success for our students being prepared for the workforce following graduation from high school through a means that meets their modes of learning by inserting the words & **Workforce Readiness as shown below.**

Schoolwide Critical Area - Student Success

- a. Graduation rate will improve to 90%
- b. 9th grade retention rate will decrease to 5%
- c. ELA Proficiency on SBA will improve to 75%
- d. Math Proficiency on SBA will improve to 60%
- e. Science Proficiency on SBA will improve to 35%
- f. College & **Workforce Readiness** going rate will increase to 75%

Having our students graduate with a workforce development diploma, or a pre-apprenticeship certificate, or other industry-recognized certificate is truly the way to serve our diverse student population with different modes of learning.

Hawaii's present high school curriculum is geared toward attending college and neglect to provide the workforce readiness curriculum that is so needed in preparing all students to succeed in our every changing society.

I strongly believe that a workforce readiness program will improve graduation rates, and assist with 9th grade retention for the transition from middle school to high school is where we lose our 9th graders after first semester.

This workforce readiness program is a second chance for our students and adults and the appropriation of State funds earmarked for this program is needed for the development, implementation, and coordination of a workforce readiness diploma program for Hawaii.

Mahalo for your support.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 9:05:41 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janna Cochran	Testifying for MCSA - Maui	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 9:29:25 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clarice Lee	Testifying for DOE adult education	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 9:46:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Choi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB1561 as an educator and private citizen. Passing this bill will ensure a quality of life for our Ohana.

LATE

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/4/2022 1:02:09 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
elisa besalel	Testifying for McKinley School for Adults	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It would be an important tool to have this option to offer to our students. I highly support this.

LATE

HB-1561-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/5/2022 9:24:54 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/5/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
King James Mangoba	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of the bill HB1561 because this is going to help train the future workforce of Hawaii. This program will have students earn college-level credits or professional credentials while in high school. This is important because this program can help students use after high school since many are primarily gonna be in the workforce right away. I personally have taken some Early College courses and I find them very beneficial as this gave me an opportunity to experience college courses and have helped me better prepare for my college career. I had conversations with my fellow students regarding their plans after high school and many are going to be in the workforce. With this program, I am hopeful that many of my fellow students will get a better job positions because of their credentials through this program.