



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

**Date:** 03/17/2022

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 309 Via Videoconference

**Committee:** House Education

**Department:** Education

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

**Title of Bill:** SB 2826, SD2 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes a career development success program within the Department of Education to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs. Establishes a similar program for public charter schools. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 2826, SD2 and appreciates the inclusion of funding but asks 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 of 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 needed resources and support for all students.

The Department recognizes that SB 2826, SD2 creates a career development success program to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students to enroll in and complete a qualified industry-credential program. The Department appreciates the appropriation in this bill to distribute monetary awards based on the number of students who earn industry-recognized credentials.

As public high schools establish and expand their Career and Technical Education

programs of study within their school design, the Department is committed to strengthening a concerted effort among various partners to prepare students for the college and career pipeline with the appropriate skills, attributes, certifications, work-based learning experiences, and/or post-secondary credits to contribute to the vitality of Hawaii's workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2826, SD2.

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 HOUSE COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION AND WATER & LAND  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2826, S.D. 2

**March 17, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Room 309 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO EDUCATION

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

Senate Bill No. 2826, S.D. 2, adds a new section to Chapter 302A, HRS, and Chapter 302D, HRS, to establish a Career Development Success Program (Program) to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools and charter schools to encourage students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs. The bill appropriates an unspecified sum of general funds for FY 23 for the Program.

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.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



JOHN S.S. KIM  
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII  
**STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION**  
**(‘AHA KULA HO‘ĀMANA)**

<http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov>  
1111 Bishop Street, Suite 516, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

---

FOR: SB2826 SD2 Relating to Education  
DATE: March 17, 2022  
TIME: 2:00 P.M.  
COMMITTEE: Committee on Education and Committee on Water & Land  
ROOM: Conference Room 309 & Videoconference  
FROM: Yvonne Lau, Interim Executive Director  
State Public Charter School Commission

---

Chair Woodson, Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Kapela, Vice Chair Branco and members of the Committees:

The State Public Charter School Commission (“Commission”) appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony in **SUPPORT of SB2826 SD2** which establishes a career development success program within the Department of Education to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs. Establishes a similar program for public charter schools. Appropriates funds

The Commission is deeply grateful for the inclusion of our public charter schools in this new program. The Commission is available to work with these committees, the Hawaii Department of Education, and public charter schools in moving this legislation forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



# Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

*The Voice of Business*

**Testimony to the House Committee on Education  
Thursday, March 17, 2022, at 2:00 P.M.  
Conference Room 309 & Videoconference**

**RE: SB 2826 SD2 Relating to Education**

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 2826 HD2 which establishes a career development success program to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs. It also establishes a similar program for public charter schools.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Through strategic and deliberate collaboration, the Chamber is investing in K-12 career and technical education, and synergy with business community, resulting in new industry partner connections, sector-driven workforce development solutions, increased certification attainment and high-quality work-based learning (WBL) experiences.

The Chamber supports the development and funding of sector-driven collaboratives to address Hawaii's talent pipeline and workforce development solutions. Sector Partnerships provide a forum for employers, educators, community partners and public sector leaders to collaborate on opportunities to strengthen and grow their sector. We believe that convening and facilitating a shared space for employers and educators is instrumental to preparing Hawaii residents for in-demand jobs and helping employers find skilled workers.

Establishing a career development success program in Hawaii would ensure that students learn skills and earn credentials required by industry for employment after graduation. Industry-recognized credentials are important because they teach the specific knowledge and skills that are required for an occupation or industry. With the rise in student debt and workforce shortages across multiple industries, this bill helps students find a career path they can thrive in, while also strengthening and diversifying our economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org  
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro  
Executive Director

March 17, 2022

Committee on Education

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair

Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee,

**HawaiiKidsCAN strongly supports SB2826 SD2**, which establishes a career development success program within the Department of Education to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs; establishes a similar program for public charter schools; and appropriates funds.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

In terms of generational sustainability, it is clear the status quo won't cut it. Hawaii continues to be a place that is losing population, and research shows that a significant number of young and educated former residents have now found other states their home.<sup>1</sup> That means our leaders and policymakers must be taking bold steps to ensure our students are fully equipped to survive and thrive in Hawaii, especially given the economic stresses heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

One clear way to achieve this call to action is to fully harness the power of Hawaii's innovative career readiness programs in our public schools. It's not just a matter of *if*

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.civilbeat.org/2022/01/hawaiis-population-drain-outpaces-most-states-again/#:~:text=From%20July%202020%20to%20July,from%20the%20U.S.%20Census%20Bureau.&text=This%20means%20about%2014%2C500%20people,Hawaii%20has%20lost%2030%2C000%20residents.>

students are getting career readiness opportunities, but rather if those experiences are strategically aligned to provide students with the most benefits. SB516 – Act 163 – was passed last year to help schools, policy leaders, and funders better understand and prioritize programming for students when it comes to getting them ready for quality and available jobs in Hawaii. For the first time, data will be available and shared from all state educational systems and workforce training agencies to analyze the cross-agency longitudinal education and workforce outcomes of students who attempted an educational course, training program, career program, postsecondary program, or other state-supported workforce training program.

SB2826 SD2 would build on this foundation to create an incentive program for public schools based on how successfully students attain industry recognized credentials that are aligned to the local Promising Credentials report. In particular, the report used intensive labor market analysis and outreach to local Hawaii businesses to curate a list of industry-recognized credentials that are associated with in-demand, living wage occupations throughout the state. That means a student earning a Promising Credential is better prepared for jobs that are forecasted to increase in demand, pay a family sustaining wage, and have a promising career ladder.

This effort is particularly important, in that it will help streamline and accelerate skill development for students. The initial training students get at the high school level will help take care of their basic requirements and get them through the door, at which point they will have a leg up for continued higher education or entering the workforce in their relevant industry. Students will have greater clarity, choices, and experience.

This bill is a win for students, schools, local employers, and the broader Hawaii economy, and would make our education system among the most exciting in the world. In Switzerland, for example, student pairing with businesses begins at the age of sixteen, with 71 percent of high schoolers participating in all fields (trades, blue- and white-collar occupations). Spending up to three days per week working in industry-specific training, the Swiss youth earn a monthly stipend of between \$800 and \$1,400. Upon graduation from high school at the age of nineteen or twenty, students leave with a diploma, several years of work experience, a sizable savings cushion, and typically an in-hand offer from an employer or a targeted higher-education pathway.<sup>2</sup>

And investment in today's kid is an investment in Hawaii's bright present *and* future.

Mahalo for your consideration,

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://epicenter.wcfia.harvard.edu/blog/our-labor-market-crisis-paving-new-path-future-work>



David Miyashiro  
Founding Executive Director  
HawaiiKidsCAN



## House Committee on Education

**Representative Justin H. Woodson, Chair**  
**Representative Jeanne Kapela, Vice-Chair**  
**Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 2:00 P.M.**  
**Conference Room 309 & Via Videoconference**

### **RE: SB 2826 SD2, RELATING TO EDUCATION**

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee:

**The Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) Hawaii supports SB 2826 SD2** which establishes a career development success program to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs. It also establishes a similar program for public charter schools.

SHRM Hawaii serves and represents nearly 600 members and employers' statewide and human resource management is a critical component to the success and survival of the many businesses that make up our local economy. HR professionals are responsible for evaluating and balancing the needs of both the employers and employees and caring for businesses' most valuable asset: the working people of our state.

Establishing a career development success program in Hawaii would ensure that students learn skills and earn credentials required by industry for employment after graduation. Industry-recognized credentials are important because they teach the specific knowledge and skills that are required for an occupation or industry. With the rise in student debt and workforce shortages across multiple industries, this bill helps students find a career path they can thrive in, while also strengthening and diversifying our economy.

SHRM Hawaii is a firm believer in work-based learning, and our members welcome the opportunity to work with schools and adult learning community schools to hire and train the future of Hawaii's workforce.



We appreciate the committee bringing policies forward that would help advance our economy and get people back to work. We stand in support of this bill and support workforce readiness programs like the one outlined in this legislation.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Kalani Morse  
Legislative Affairs Committee Co-Chair

Dailyn Yanagida  
Legislative Affairs Committee Co-Chair



SHRM Hawaii, P. O. Box 3175, Honolulu, Hawaii (808) 447-1840



**Testimony to the House Committee on Education and the House Committ on Water  
and Land**

**Thursday, March 17, 2022**

**2:00 P.M.**

**Video Conference**

**Conference Room 309**

**SB 2826 SD2: RELATING TO EDUCATION**

Chairs Woodson and Tarnas, Vice Chairs Kapela and Branco and Members of the Committees:

My name is Gary Kai and I am the Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable. The Hawaii Business Roundtable supports Senate Bill 2826 SD2 which would establish a career development success program to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs.

The Hawai'i Business Roundtable is a statewide organization made up of Chief Executive Officers and senior executives of companies in Hawaii. While it is made up of business leaders, the Hawaii Business Roundtable is a community organization focused on broad community issues. It's members have spent countless hours supporting our public education system and in building a more resilient and innovative economy. It has partnered with government, private, nonprofit and other community organizations in building a stronger future for Hawaii and its children.

Public education has always been a cornerstone of the Roundtable's work. On its current agenda it supports the efforts of our public school to create work-based learning experiences that includes exposure to real-world work places. Financial incentives to encourage students to enroll in and complete a qualified industry-credential program is a significant public-private partnership to help our students succeed in our community.

We look forward to supporting this effort to help our youth and congratulate and thank the legislature for this effort. We strongly support Senate Bill 2826 SD2.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

Gary K. Kai, Executive Director  
Hawaii Business Roundtable

Malaki 17, 2022

Committee on Education

Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Chair

Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair

**Aloha ‘oe** i ka Lunaho‘omalua Woodson, a Hope Lunaho‘omalua Kapela, a me nā Lālā o ke Komite,  
(Aloha to you Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela and Members of the Committee,)

‘O Phoenix Maimiti Valentine ko‘u inoa. Ua ulu au ma ka mokupuni o Oahu. ‘O Ka‘ala ku‘u mauna. ‘O Hōnua ku‘u wailele. ‘O Mākaha ku‘u kahakai. I kēia manawa, ke noho nei au ma ka ‘āina ‘o ‘Amelika Hui Pū ‘Ia ma waho o Hawai‘i. Aia na‘e ko‘u pu‘uwai i Hawai‘i. He haumāna puka kula ki‘eki‘e au a e lilo koke i haumana kulanui. Ha‘aheo au e kāko‘o i ka Bila Senate 2826 SD2. Welina!

My name is Phoenix Maimiti Valentine. I grew up on the island of Oahu. Mount Ka‘ala is my mauna. Hōnua is my waterfall. Mākaha Beach is my kahakai. Now, I live in the continental United States, outside of Hawai‘i. Yet, my heart is in Hawai‘i. I’m a High School graduate and will soon become a college student. Greetings!

Ha‘aheo wau e kāko‘o i ka Bila Senate 2826 SD2.

I am proud to support SB 2826 SD2.

SB 2826 SD2, builds on SB516 which proposes to help Public School & Public Charter School students from 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade attain industry recognized credentials according to the Promising Credentials Report in Hawai‘i. Helping students earn wealth for higher education and living expenses are added benefits. Industry, Community, and the quality of services in Hawai‘i will profit from experienced haumāna.

SB 2826 SD2, will encourage more students to start thinking about their future before they reach the 9<sup>th</sup> grade when this opportunity commences. SB 2826 SD2, may be the incentive for students to study harder to participate. Connecting students to their potential is an incredible feat! It’s a worthwhile endeavor.

**Please vote in favor of SB 2826 SD2.**

SB 2826 SD2, will help students who are invested in Hawai‘i to continue living at home in paradise. Students’ effervescence could breathe new life into industry in Hawai‘i with guidance from industry professionals as mandated by the state. Students’ unique perception and willingness to learn, would enrich the quality of services in our island state and strengthen cultural connections that make Hawai‘i stand out. Mahalo ‘ia oukou, no ka ho‘olohe ana mai. Thank you all for listening.

**Me ka ha‘aha‘a,** Phoenix Maimiti Valentine

**SB-2826-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 10:08:30 AM

Testimony for EDN on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erica Yamauchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a mother of two children in our public schools, I am writing in strong support of this bill. This bill is a win for students, schools, local employers, and the broader Hawai'i economy, and would make our education system among the most exciting in the world. Students earning a Promising Credential are better prepared for jobs that are forecasted to increase in demand into the future, pay a family-sustaining wage, and have a promising career path.

Thank you for your consideration, and the opportunity to provide comment.

**SB-2826-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/16/2022 1:45:24 PM

Testimony for EDN on 3/17/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Celeste Endo	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

**Aloha ‘auinalā Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Education Committee,**

**As a mother of a Kalani high school son and daughter at UHManoa, I support SB2826 SD2 that promotes Industry Recognized Credentials at the high school level.**

**A few weeks ago, my husband came home and excitedly told our family that our daughter’s friend, a high school Senior, had just helped him at Longs Pharmacy! Our daughter pointed out that Kaiser High offers a Pharmacy Technician program that prepares high schoolers for actual pharmacy jobs. Incredible!**

**While some students struggle to find the purpose of what they are learning in school, what if students get to experience the direct connection of school to viable career options? Let’s keep growing these wonderful programs that give reciprocal value to our students and the communities we live in.**

**Mahalo for your time & consideration,**

**Celeste Yukiko Endo**