



Randy Perreira, President

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO
Hawaii's Labor Unions

888 Mililani Street Suite 501, Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96813

The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawai'i
Hawai'i State House of Representatives
Committee on Higher Education & Technology

Testimony by
Hawai'i State AFL-CIO
March 22, 2023

H.R. 143 / H.C.R. 141 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAII TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO
CREATE A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
MARITIME COLLEGE AND TO ESTABLISH A
MARITIME COLLEGE.

The Hawai'i State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 74 affiliate local unions and councils with over 68,000 members across both public and private sectors. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in **support** of H.R. 143 / H.C.R. 141.

Out of state maritime academies currently supply Hawai'i's maritime workforce needs. Creating a maritime career pathway from cradle to career will build Hawai'i's capacity to continue the seamless delivery of readily available goods in Hawai'i by Hawai'i workers. Hawai'i maritime workers are Hawai'i taxpayers whose income is part of Hawai'i's economy even while they are out to sea.

Maritime workers in Hawai'i must currently leave the state for maritime training in both licensed and unlicensed maritime career pathways. Establishing a maritime college in Hawai'i will enable Hawai'i to fulfill its own maritime workforce needs with students directly out of high school or with adults who are changing careers. The maritime college will also fulfill the need for ongoing professional development for both in-state and out-of-state mariners.

We appreciate your consideration of our testimony in **support** of H.R. 143 / H.C.R. 141.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Perreira".

Randy Perreira
President



INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION

LOCAL OFFICE • 451 ATKINSON DRIVE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 • PHONE 949-4161

HAWAII DIVISION: 100 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii 96720 • **OAHU DIVISION:** 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
MAUI COUNTY DIVISION: 896 Lower Main Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 • **KAUAI DIVISION:** 4154 Hardy Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766
HAWAII LONGSHORE DIVISION: 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

LOCAL 142

March 22, 2023

The Thirty-Second Legislature
Regular Session of 2023

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Committee on Higher Education and Technology

Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Chair
Rep. Jeanne Kapela, Vice Chair
State Capitol, Conference Room 309
Wednesday, March 22, 2023; 2:00 p.m.

STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON HR 143/HCR141 RELATING TO URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONVENE AT WORKING GROUP TO CREATE A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MARITIME COLLEGE AND TO ESTABLISH A MARITIME COLLEGE

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 142 (ILWU 142) testifies in **strong support of HR143/HCR141** urging the University of Hawaii to convene a working group to create a plan for the establishment of a maritime college and to establish a maritime college. The ILWU 142 is a labor union comprised of 18,000 members in the longshore, tourism, pineapple, and general trades industries.

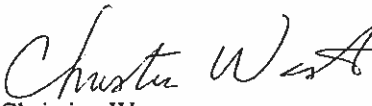
The ILWU 142 is committed to ensuring that local families can access family-sustaining jobs so they can stay in Hawaii. A comprehensive maritime training center with a corresponding training ship is an important resource for local workers pursuing careers in the maritime industry.

The University of Hawaii has emerged as a leader in ocean-based education and research and adding an ocean-based workforce development program is a practical addition to this work. Maritime colleges are 4-year degree granting institutions that provide the strongest set of credentials in the industry by combining career technical training with the well-rounded education provided for in a bachelor's degree. Other than a marine training center, the University of Hawaii already has most of the component parts needed for a comprehensive maritime college.

Not every worker can afford to attend college outside of Hawaii nor can every worker afford to spend years away from family and community obligations. Housing a maritime college within the University of Hawaii System allows for greater access to financial aid, external funding, and administrative expertise. All of which will help to facilitate entry into a maritime career and build capacity within the port, maritime and marine space.

A maritime college would create a stable jobs pipeline into family-sustaining local jobs, address ongoing workforce needs within the critical supply chain and prepare for jobs of tomorrow. For those reasons, this is a matter of statewide concern.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of HR143/HCR141.**


Christian West
President, ILWU Local 142

HR-143

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 9:31:42 AM

Testimony for HET on 3/22/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Molly Arthur	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou!

I am writing in strong support of Bill HR143. I have spent many years as a maritime career counselor and personally witnessed many students leave Hawai'i in pursuit of a career in the maritime industry. These are high earning positions that are not only out at sea but shoreside positions as well. Many future mariners attend a four year college earning a BS degree in maritime transportation and become a licensed merchant mariner. In my humble opinion, this can and should be provided here locally. Historically, Hawaiians are born and raised around the ocean. Culturally, it is a way of life. Educationally, We focus a lot of our efforts resources and funding on Wa'a-which I think is imperative, however there is a degree offered outside Hawai'i that allows our local students to be afforded an opportunity to earn well over six figures and would allow local kids to continue to afford to live in Hawai'i.