



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Education and
Committee on Higher Education

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Written Testimony
by
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HB 2305: RELATING TO THE HAWAII INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

UH Mānoa and the College of Education supports HB 2305, repealing the law establishing the Hawai'i Institute for Educational Partnerships (HIEP).

The proposed legislation reflects the recommendation submitted by the College of Education in its November 2009 Annual Report to the Legislature on the Hawai'i Institute for Education Partnership (HRS 304A-1203). As noted in the annual report, HIEP was created in 1986 to facilitate closer working relationships between the College of Education (COE) and the Department of Education (DOE) and to support joint work with the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER). Financial support for the HIEP is provided solely by the COE.

Since the implementation of the law, the COE has developed strong working relationships with the DOE and has sought to strengthen teacher education, with a particular focus on partnerships with local schools. Recent budget constraints have led to withdrawal of membership from the NNER. However, the activities recommended by NNER are ongoing in the College. There is a continuing commitment to working in partnership with schools and to work collaboratively with the DOE to strengthen education in Hawai'i. In addition, the COE has now established a Mānoa Partnerships office that it maintains with its own resources.

We urge the legislature to approve HB 2305 and repeal HRS 304A-1203 relating to the establishment of the HIEP.

Thank your for the opportunity to testify.