

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI`I 96804

Date: 01/30/2019 **Time:** 10:00 AM **Location:** 309

Committee: House Economic Development &

Business

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0406 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Requires DBEDT to develop annual regional economic plans for each

county to provide K-16 pathways and qualified internship programs to meet each region's specific industry needs. Exempts qualified

internship programs from the procurement process. Appropriates

funds.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) offers comments on HB 406.

The Department works closely with the Office of the State Director for Career and Technical Education and Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education to implement and support programs pursuant to the federal Carl Perkins Act for Career and Technical Education.

Career pathways are offered to students by Hawaii's public high schools to guide career exploration and planning activities, to focus teaching and learning, and to link education with relevant, real-world activities. The six pathways are comprised of: Arts and Communication, Business, Health Services, Industrial and Engineering Technology, Natural Resources, and Public and Human Services. Additionally, a range of studies within each pathway promotes student choice to develop their academic and career potential and aspirations. More information on Career and Technical Education can be found on the Department's public website at: http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/TeachingAndLearning/StudentLearning/CTE/Pages/default.aspx

Schools implement pathways based on a number of factors including student interest, availability of resources, and workforce demand. Throughout the continuous process to ensure access to comprehensive and high-quality opportunities to prepare students for careers, there is need for data to inform efforts and expanding programs with industries being proposed in the bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 406.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Development & Business
Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.
By

Donald O. Straney, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy University of Hawai'i System

HB 406 - RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 406. The University of Hawai'i finds the intent of this bill laudable and provides the following comments.

This bill would require the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism to develop and publish an annual economic development plan for each county. Based on these plans, the workforce development council would work with the Department of Education and the University of Hawai'i to develop and provide K-12 pathways and programs in each school that would prepare students for employment in the high-priority industries identified in the county plans. Additionally, internship programs would be identified that would give these students hands-on experience in these industries.

The University of Hawai'i has developed a website that is used by its students and by DOE schools to identify career opportunities and jobs in the economic sectors of Hawai'i's economy (https://uhcc.hawaii.edu/workforce/index.php). The site can be searched by industry, or by county and identifies degrees and credentials that are sought by employers. In addition, users can identify specific job advertisements, required skills, and the trend over time in number of job openings. This website could be linked to priority industries identified by the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism in each county, permitting easy mapping by the DOE schools to K-12 curricular pathways.

The University of Hawai'i will continue to work with both departments on incorporating this tool, and similar tools we are developing, in the K-12 curriculum. The University currently works towards this end with the workforce development council.

Resources would be required in both departments to implement the economic plans and to establish, monitor and supervise the internship programs called for in this bill. We respectfully recommend the bill be deferred to allow time for us to identify what would be needed to implement such a program across these agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



SARAH ALLEN

BONNIE KAHAKUI

STATE OF HAWAII STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
January 30, 2019, 10:00 a.m.

HB406
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Kitagawa, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB406. The State Procurement Office (SPO) supports the intent of the bill but opposes the proposition to exempt an entire program from the procurement process.

The SPO recognizes certain programs do not properly fit inside of the procurement and therefore should be exempt. However, SPO recommends that the verbiage be more specific to the internship choices versus the entire program as there is an implication that all the additional work is exempt also. This Bill calls for DBEDT to conduct plans for future use inside internship programs. Are the plans themselves exempt? This Bill calls for the program to be managed. Are all contract needs for this program exempt? This would mean that office supplies, security contracts, logistical contracts and operational needs would all be exempt from the procurement code?

Public procurement's primary objective is to ensure transparency, oversight and competition in procurement activities. If a government program is free to purchase without checks and balances, procedures or oversight, there is a vastly increased risk of fraud, waste and abuse of taxpayer's monies.

The Hawaii Public Procurement Code (code) is the single source of public procurement policy to be applied equally and uniformly, while providing fairness, open competition, a level playing field, government disclosure and transparency in the procurement and contracting process vital to good government.

HB 406 House Committee on Economic Development & Business January 30, 2019 Page 2

Public procurement's primary objective is to provide everyone equal opportunity to compete for government contracts, to prevent favoritism, collusion, or fraud in awarding of contracts. To legislate that any one entity should be exempt from compliance with both HRS chapter 103D and 103F conveys a sense of disproportionate equality in the law's application.

Exemptions to the code mean that all procurements made with taxpayer monies will not have the same oversight, accountability and transparency requirements mandated by those procurements processes provided in the code. It means that there is no requirement for due diligence, proper planning or consideration of protections for the state in contract terms and conditions, nor are there any set requirements to conduct cost and price analysis and market research or post-award contract management. As such, Agencies can choose whether to compete any procurement or go directly to one contractor. As a result, leveraging economies of scale and cost savings efficiencies found in the consistent application of the procurement code are lost. It also means Agencies are not required to adhere to the code's procurement integrity laws.

The National Association of State Procurement Officials state: "Businesses suffer when there is inconsistency in procurement laws and regulations. Complex, arcane procurement rules of numerous jurisdictions discourage competition by raising the costs to businesses to understand and comply with these different rules. Higher costs are recovered through the prices offered by a smaller pool of competitors, resulting in unnecessarily inflated costs to state and local governments."

When public bodies, are removed from the state's procurement code it results in the harm described above. As these entities create their own procurement rules, businesses are forced to track their various practices. Moreover, a public body often can no longer achieve the benefits of aggregation by using another public body's contract because different state laws and regulations may apply to the various public bodies making compliance more difficult.

Each year new procurement laws are applied to state agencies causing state agency contracts to become more complex and costly, while other public bodies, such as agencies with strong legislative influence, are exempted. Relieving some public bodies from some laws by exempting or excluding them from compliance with a common set of legal requirements creates an imbalance wherein the competitive environment becomes different among the various jurisdictions and the entire procurement process becomes less efficient and costlier for the state and vendors.

Thank you.

Testimony to the House Committee on Economic Development & Business Wednesday, January 30, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. Conference Room 309, State Capitol

RE: HOUSE BILL 406 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") <u>supports</u> HB 406, which requires DBEDT to develop annual regional economic plans for each county to provide K-16 pathways and qualified internship programs to meet each region's specific industry needs. The bill also exempts qualified internship programs from the procurement process and appropriates funds to support this effort.

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.

The Chamber applauds the Legislature's recognition that work-based learning is critical to academic and career success. For the last few years, the Chamber has partnered with the University of Hawaii ("UH"), Workforce Development Council ("WDC"), and the Hawaii P-20 Council to identify high-growth, high-demand occupations to ultimately align curriculum in Hawaii's public schools and post-secondary learning institutions with the specific needs of industry. Some of this work has been done through sector partnerships, or industry engagements, to understand skill gaps that may exist and how to prepare the future workforce.

Additionally, the Chamber, with grant support from the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, has been serving as an intermediary between the business community and Waipahu and Pearl City High Schools to create work-based learning opportunities and sustainable industry partnerships.

While we believe that centralizing some of the proposed responsibilities, such as pre-internship training for students, implementation of adequate safety and supervisory safeguards, and data collection, within the Department of Education ("DOE") is a positive step, we would like to note that great work is already being done by regional partners (i.e. intermediaries) to develop student internships and other experiential learning opportunities by brokering partnerships through a single point of contact for the business community. For a variety of reasons, the demand for internships, both for high school and college students, exponentially exceeds the number of internship opportunities that are available. Some of the primary reasons are likely to be addressed through internship systematization within the DOE, but from our experience, the principal reason business organizations are reluctant to provide internships is due to the high number of requests that they receive from schools. For this reason, the existence of a regional intermediary is important to growing the number of opportunities that are available.

Overall, this legislation is an important step toward systematizing the current work being done through sector partnerships and developing meaningful career pathways for Hawaii's students. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org David Miyashiro hawaiikidscan.org

Executive Director

January 30, 2019

Committee on Economic Development and Business Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee,

HawaiiKidsCAN strongly supports HB 406, which requires the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) to develop annual regional economic plans for each county to provide K-16 pathways and qualified internship programs to meet each region's specific industry needs. The proposed law would also exempt qualified internship programs from the procurement process and appropriating funds.

Removing barriers to relevant, applied, and innovative learning experiences is necessary if we want our kids to shape and lead the world of the future. We see industry and public schools as natural partners in preparing students for tomorrow—if only there was less red tape.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a 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. Last year, our centerpiece campaign sought to increase equity and access for STEM and computer science learning experiences. These opportunities expose students to skills connected with highwage, high-growth industries, giving them more options upon graduation.

Today, our students face an uncertain, deeply complex economic future, both globally and locally. The cost of living continues to rise in Hawaii while affordable housing options become more scarce. By forging a strong and thoughtful link between local schools and industry, we can ensure the next generation thrives in that challenging environment; grow our local economy; and address the state's persistent "brain drain" phenomenon, which sees many of our talented students leave for the mainland and stay there due to perceived lack of opportunity.



Given the diverse and varied needs of our local communities, HB 406 provides critical alignment between K-12 and higher education. It builds on exciting work happening locally already thanks to innovative school and industry partners. This bill moves the needle in three critical ways:

- **Alignment**: There is growing interest from local students and teachers in work-based learning and career and technical education. Schools need coordinated support so that they are offering training and classes that lead to the biggest impacts. HB 406 ensures that the opportunities available to students are tied directly to industries with the greatest economic and growth potential for students. This is made possible by aligning K-12, higher education, and economic development partners to work together to map out regional economic plans. These plans help schools offer K-16 pathways and qualified internship programs to meet each region's specific industry needs.
- **Streamlining**: "High school internships are a win-win for both employers and students," said Robin D. Richards, chairman and CEO of Internships.com. "For students, work experience is the key to ensure they make a good career decision and build their professional network. By employing students, companies get exposure to talent early in their career journey and help support the well-being of the local community."
 - HB406 streamlines the process of companies offering internships to students. It exempts schools from having to go through the complicated state procurement process, making it less daunting for well-meaning industry partners to support their local public schools. It also establishes safeguards for students to ensure they receive quality, relevant career experiences in these opportunities.
- **Resources**: In order to spur these innovative changes in our local schools, HB 406 also provides financial incentives to schools as determined by the number of students actively completing qualified internship programs as outlined by this bill. Schools already have so much on their plate with limited resources, so we want to make sure that they receive the appropriate support and recognition as they build out these programs.

States like Tennessee and Colorado have already taken the lead on initiatives to coordinate across sectors or provide incentives to schools to offer industry certifications, internships and Advanced Placement computer science courses. School districts in Washington State also offer summer internships aligned to



regional careers in areas such as aerospace and advanced manufacturing, health and medicine, information and communication technology, energy and sustainability, business and professional services, and education. We believe that HB 406 moves similar work forward for Hawaii, and we are excited to see what Hawaii's students will achieve when they have opportunity to attain transformative, marketable skills under HB 406.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

David Miyashiro Founding Executive Director HawaiiKidsCAN

<u>HB-406</u> Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:13:09 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/30/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

HB-406

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:53:33 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/30/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phoenix Maimiti Valentine	W.A.V.E. (Hawai'i Kids Can)	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai e Honorable Chair McKelvey, a me Honorable Vice Chair Kitagawa,

My name is Phoenix Maimiti Valentine. I am a 10th Grade, Award Winning Student Filmmaker (thanks to the 2019 Hawai'i Regional Scholastic Art Awards), a Cultural Practitioner, a Dreamer and Home Schooler from Makaha. I write to express my support for HB406.

HB406, is an excellent idea for many reasons. It benefits the Student. It benefits the chosen Professions. Ultimately, HB406, benefits the general 'Public' receiving the service. Please support HB406.

Information is free and easily accessible in the 21st Century. Thanks to technology it's online with Khan Academy, EdX, MindValley Academy, Wikipedia, YouTube, etc. In person knowledge can be borrowed at any Hawai'i State Public Library, experienced at a Community Learning Center, at a Botanical Garden like up Ma uka in nature, or a in Museum. Knowledge is everywhere, for those able to perceive it. A greater extent of knowledge, cultivates a greater appreciation.

As a homeschooler, I am fortunate to live in the 21st century. The examples above are some of the ways I access education. Where I live, what I learn, the influences of nature, music, art, culture, educators, all these things make me who I am. I am a product of my environment. Fortunately, my community already incorporates what HB406 is proposing to some extent.

My film school, Hawai'i Women in Filmmaking, is already doing what HB406, wants to do. They are integrating student filmmakers with Professionals in the Industry because they are committed to maintaining a level of excellence already present worldwide. At the least, HWF is, aware of the business side of film and the potential of filmmaking, as well as the importance of film festivals like the Hawai'i International Film Festival (including Student Showcase & the Daniel K. Inouye Student Initiative), Girls Make Movies Film Fest, the Cultural Animation Film Festival, and Screenings like Oceania on the Reel, or Amplifying Youth Voices. Film is just one way to educate the world. Fortunately, my short student films have been featured in all of these festivals and screenings to name a few. Currently, one of my animations will be educating youth

in the 2019 Seattle International Children's Film Festival, this coming February then on view with school groups through May. The festival's director Elizabeth Sheperd, is intent with utilizing educational content to teach children and all viewers about other cultures from around the world. The Seattle International Film Festival like other Intenational Film Festivals, have the same intention, which is to heighten Gobal Awareness, promote quality work, and create a sense of Cultural Pride. Film is powerful, but it's not the only way to share knowledge.

I produce content from what I am exposed to or influenced by. The Wai'anae Public Library, like the other libraries throughout Hawai'i are dedicated to sparking interest in learning. Libraries like ours bring guest performers to share their knowledge, insight, talent and their back stories about how they got started being inspired when they were kids. I live off of their stories because like them, I am a kid with dreams. My future begins now!

The future is here! Every child in Hawai'i or in the World for that matter deserves a chance. Please consider raising the level of quality starting at home here in Hawai'i, and creating more opportunity for excellence in these islands by supporting HB406. It will be positive for everyone and future generations to come.

Mahalo, Phoenix Maimiti Valentine

HB-406 Submitted on: 1/28/2019 1:51:08 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/30/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mio Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB406. Please pass this bill. Mahalo

HB-406

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 9:56:25 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/30/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Sun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB406, because I am a middle school math teacher who is asked all the time: "When will we need this?" I have to come up with hypothetical business scenarios so that my students can understand when linear equations, exponential growth, and systems of equations will be useful. I have to dig into my own past employment experiences to showcase when I used math to solve a problem. I have also created a hypothetical architecture project. But isn't there an easier and more tangible way to, not only invest our students, but allow them to apply their knowledge? Without internship pathways and opportunities, our students are essentially watching videos on how to lift weights rather than physically picking up actual weights and exercising real muscles.

To clarify, I am not a businessperson or architect. So how accurate or updated is my pedagogy when I, as a teacher, also lack the connection between my curriculum and the real world? I believe that internship pathways will also push me, as an educator, to improve my teaching and professional development.

Lastly I believe that internship pathways for K-12 students will only provide a stronger community and boost our local businesses. Local businesses can train and retain local students who might otherwise move to the mainland for better opportunities. For these reasons, I support HB406.





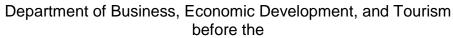
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: Fax:

(808) 586-2355 (808) 586-2377





HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Wednesday, January 30, 2019 10:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 309 In consideration of

HB406 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) appreciates the intent of HB 406 which requires: 1) DBEDT to develop an annual regional economic plan for each county; 2) The Workforce Development Council/DLIR to consult with the Department of Education and the University of Hawaii to provide K-16 pathways and qualified internship programs to meet each region's specific industry needs in each public school and public charter school; 3) The DOE to maintain records of credentials and internships and schools offering pathways and programs; 4) SPO to exempt qualified internship programs from Chapter 103D; and 5) Each participating school may receive up to \$1,000 in bonus incentive for each student who has completed a qualifying internship in the previous budget year. The bill appropriates \$500,000 in each year of the biennium to be expended by DBEDT.

DBEDT offers the following **comments**:

This is a meritorious program which requires careful planning and collaboration by five state departments and hundreds of schools and industry partners to be implemented successfully. DBEDT believes the measure is premature because it does not afford sufficient time for the partners to develop an implementation plan. DBEDT respectfully requests that this measure be deferred for at least a year to give the partners an opportunity to work out proposed operating arrangements. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



January 28, 2019

Committee on Economic Development & Business Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Chair McKelvey and Vice Chair Kitagawa,

My name is Aisha Heredia, I live in Manoa and am a former science and technology educator. I currently work for HawaiiKidsCAN and am proud to support HB406 because it will help to increase opportunities for high school students to access jobs upon graduating if they have real-world experiences in the growing industries that surround them.

Computer science (CS) and information communication technologies (ICT) occupations are the #1 source of all new wages¹ in the U.S. Here in Hawaii there are not enough skilled workers to fill the currently available CS and ICT positions. Often Hawaii companies have to recruit skilled workers from other states and countries.

Almost a decade ago, the root causes of the lack of young women who go into STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) professions, and the lack of people of color who are employed in STEM professions where big questions in the tech world². The reasons why there is a lack of representation in STEM workforce is because of a lack of learning opportunities for young women and low-income students in STEM related school activities, lack of access to innovative STEM programming in Title 1 schools, and lack of teacher knowledge on STEM project-based learning in Title 1 schools. Sadly, the themes from a decade ago are still the themes of today and are roadblocks for our keiki.

If counties outline strategic industries of high growth and the Hawaii Department of Education allows easier access for local business to have

¹ Computing occupations are now the #1 source of new waves in America, by Code.org, https://blog.code.org/post/144206906013/computing-occupations-are-now-the-1-source-of-new

² Report on, "Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics" by AAUW.org, https://www.aauw.org/research/why-so-few/

internship opportunities with local students, this will create greater pathways for students to receive skills training.

I support HB406 because it will help develop these county plans and incentivize schools for providing internship programs for their students. If we are able to increase skills training via internships for high growth industries in Title 1 schools, it will open big doors to our local students to enter high quality career fields. This might also open doors to young women, as research shows^{3&4} that early exposure, even starting in middle school, can have a significant impact on eliminating the gender gap in students who go into the STEM labor force.

I support HB406 because we need Title 1 schools to offer high-quality internship opportunities in growing STEM industries. We need girls, Native Hawaiian, and low-income students to meaningfully engage in real-world skills for these growing industries. Developing county specific regional reports on growing industries, and strategic partnership with the DOE to streamline and implement a plan for these internships, and funding that will incentivize schools to hold these internship programs are necessary. The future of Hawaii's STEM labor force depends on educational shifts of today, HB406 will support a brighter economic future for everyone.

Mahalo, Aisha Heredia Former Technology Educator

Community Outreach for HawaiiKidsCAN Honolulu, HI

³ The State of K12-Computer Science, found on Code.Org, https://code.org/about/2016

⁴ Engaging Youth with STEM Professionals research, https://projects.ncsu.edu/meridian/winter2010/koch/print.html



<u>HB-406</u> Submitted on: 1/30/2019 11:08:21 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/30/2019 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Shon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR JOSH GREEN

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C.H. TASAKA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 417, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Phone: (808) 586-8630 Web: http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/

January 29, 2019

To:

Representative Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair and

Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair and

Members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business

From:

Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director

Workforce Development Council

RE:

HB 406 Relating to Economic Development

Hearing: January 30, 2019, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 309

POSITION: Support Intent and Comments

Good morning Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa and members of the Committee on Economic Development and Business. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Executive Director of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in support of the intent of HB 406 and offers comments.

The measure requires DEBT to develop annual regional economic plans for each county to provide K-16 pathways and qualified internship programs to meet each region's specific industry needs, involving the WDC, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), Department of Education (DOE) and the University of Hawaii (UH).

The WDC is responsible for the administrative oversight and implementation of a federally mandated initiative, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 or WIOA. The agency is tasked with strategic planning and developing the infrastructure for a seamless common intake and referral system at the American Job Centers (or One-Stop Centers) so job seekers and employers can maneuver through the workforce system efficiently and receive employment, education, training and support services throughout the State. The WDC is administratively attached to the DLIR.

Under WIOA and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) the WDC, UH and DOE Adult Education are currently collaborating to develop career pathways, internships and apprenticeships at the post-secondary level. The federal initiatives are data and

job-driven and emphasize work-based training. UH Office of Career and Technical Education (CTE) is taking the lead on developing a five-year state Perkins plan (2019-2024) that must align with the recently updated WIOA Hawaii Unified State Plan. To allow time for the development of the state Perkins plan and WDC and other departments, agencies and counties to collaborate and plan, we respectfully request this measure be deferred to a future legislative session.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 406.