



GOV. MSG. NO. 1395

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

July 12, 2022

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,  
President  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,  
Speaker and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

I am transmitting herewith SB2142 SD1 HD1 CD1, without my approval and with the statement of objections relating to the measure.

SB2142 SD1 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO COMPUTER SCIENCE.

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 12, 2022

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2142

Honorable Members  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 2142, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Computer Science."

The purposes of this bill are to (1) allow Department of Education students to fulfill graduation requirements by taking world language, fine arts, career and technical education, or computer science courses; (2) establish a scholarship at the University of Hawaii to encourage students majoring in education to take a computer science course; (3) require the University of Hawaii to establish computer science pathways for students majoring in education; (4) require teacher licensing and certification to include computer science; and (5) appropriate funds for the computer science in teaching scholarship program at the University of Hawaii.

This bill is objectionable because it imposes a new admissions requirement on the University of Hawaii (UH), which will be applicable to all campuses. As written, this bill would require that applicants for admission have successfully completed a world language, fine arts, career and technical education, or computer science class. This requirement would effectively preclude many adults from entering the UH Community College system. Approximately one-third of all community college applicants are over the age of 25 and would not have met the proposed admissions requirement. In addition, UH's Community Colleges work hard to provide opportunities to those who did not complete high school. The new admissions requirement set forth in this bill would create a barrier to public higher education that could impact thousands of potential adult learners.

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Furthermore, this bill diminishes the power of the Board of Education (BOE) to formulate statewide educational policy, as established by Section 3 of Article X of the Hawai'i Constitution. The BOE already has a policy regarding high school graduation requirements; under the constitution, any revisions to those requirements should be made by the BOE, and not by the Legislature.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning Senate Bill No. 2142 without my approval.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Y. Ige". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor of Hawai'i



1 school course in world language, fine arts, career and technical  
2 education, or computer science, up to a maximum of two credits."

3 SECTION 3. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to part II, subpart B, to be  
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6 "§304A- Computer science in teaching scholarship  
7 program. (a) There is established the computer science in  
8 teaching scholarship program to be administered by the  
9 University of Hawaii. The purpose of the scholarship program  
10 shall be to increase computer science knowledge among Hawaii's  
11 department of education and public charter school teachers.

12 (b) Subject to available funds, the University of Hawaii  
13 shall award scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 for each  
14 student that is earning a degree in teaching and also want to  
15 take computer science classes. No person shall be awarded more  
16 than one scholarship under this program.

17 (c) The scholarship program shall prioritize awarding  
18 scholarships to students from underrepresented groups and  
19 students who agree to teach computer science in schools having  
20 higher percentages of students from underrepresented groups,  
21 rural schools, or under-resourced schools."



1 SECTION 4. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to part IV, subpart B, to be  
3 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

4 "§304A- Pathways in computer science education. (a)  
5 The college of education shall develop and implement pathways in  
6 computer science for students studying to obtain a degree in  
7 education.

8 (b) The pathways shall prepare a student to teach computer  
9 science education at the elementary or secondary level.

10 (c) The University of Hawaii shall submit pathway programs  
11 to the Hawaii teacher standards board for computer science  
12 licensure approval to provide the opportunity for students  
13 completing the pathway established pursuant to this section to  
14 be eligible to add a computer science license to an elementary  
15 or secondary teaching license or to acquire an initial teaching  
16 license in computer science.

17 (d) The college of education may collaborate with the  
18 information and computer sciences department and nonprofit  
19 organizations to implement this section."

20 SECTION 5. Section 302A-802, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended to read as follows:



1           "§302A-802 Licensing and certification standards;  
2 policies. (a) The board shall establish licensing and  
3 certification standards that govern teacher licensing and  
4 certification in Hawaii. Licensing and certification standards  
5 established by the board shall be adopted as rules under  
6 chapter 91 unless otherwise specified in this subpart.

7           (b) In the development of its standards, the board shall  
8 consider the existing teacher applicant pool that is available  
9 in the State and the level of the qualification of these  
10 applicants, as well as the nature and availability of existing  
11 preservice teacher training programs.

12           (c) The board shall adopt policies, exempt from chapters  
13 91 and 92, to initiate the following:

14           (1) Develop criteria allowing more individuals with trade  
15 or industry experience to teach in vocational,  
16 technical, and career pathway programs, and criteria  
17 for the issuance of permits allowing qualified  
18 individuals to teach when recommended by the  
19 superintendent or the commission, when appropriate.  
20 The department or the commission, when appropriate,  
21 shall be responsible for the review and acceptance of



1 the relevant licenses, certificates, or other  
2 qualifications related to an individual's vocational,  
3 technical, or career pathway education-related  
4 experience that the department or the commission, when  
5 appropriate, deems necessary for a permit. The  
6 department or the commission, when appropriate, shall  
7 have the authority to waive the requirement of a  
8 bachelor's degree to teach in a vocation, technical,  
9 or career pathway education program;

10 (2) Develop a plan to accept teachers from any state as  
11 long as they have completed state-approved teacher  
12 education programs and pass relevant Hawaii teacher  
13 examinations or their equivalent;

14 (3) Clarify the requirements, on a state-by-state basis,  
15 for out-of-state licensed teachers to obtain a license  
16 in Hawaii;

17 (4) Develop a plan to facilitate licensing for those who  
18 intend to teach in Hawaii immersion programs, the  
19 island of Niihau, or any other extraordinary situation  
20 as defined by the superintendent or the



1 superintendent's designee, or by the commission, when  
2 appropriate;

3 (5) Pursue full teacher license reciprocity with all other  
4 states; and

5 (6) Develop a plan to facilitate an optional certification  
6 for those who teach or intend to teach at private  
7 schools.

8 (d) By June 30, 2023, any program of teacher preparation  
9 leading to a license or certification shall include, as part of  
10 the curriculum, instruction in computer science and  
11 computational thinking as applied to student learning and  
12 classroom instruction that are grade-level and subject-area  
13 appropriate."

14 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much  
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the  
17 computer science in teaching scholarship program established  
18 pursuant to section 3 of this Act.

19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
20 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

21 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



**S.B. NO.** 2142  
S.D. 1  
H.D. 1  
C.D. 1

APPROVED this                      day of                      , 2022

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I**

Date: May 3, 2022  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2022.

  
President of the Senate

  
Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 2142, SD 1, HD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 03, 2022  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022.



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives