



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
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March 2, 2022

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair,
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Date: Wednesday, March 2, 2022
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Anne E. Perreira-Eustaquio, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: S.B. No. 3127 SD1 RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

SB3127 SD1 proposes to amend Chapter 202, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by amending the Workforce Development Council law to be consistent with the General Appropriations Act 2021 (Act 88 SLH, 2021).

The DLIR supports this Governor's Package measure and requests amendments.

II. CURRENT LAW

The General Appropriations Act of 2021, eliminated the program identification number (LBR135) of the Workforce Development Council (WDC) and transferred its appropriation and positions to the Workforce Development Division (WDD).

III. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL

The DLIR supports this measure that amends the WDC law to be consistent with the state budget as enacted in the General Appropriations Act of 2021 (Act 88 SLH, 2021), and conforms the WDC statute to the conflict-of-interest provisions and nomenclature found in the corresponding federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The bill also makes the terminology used in the state statute consistent with the federal law by changing the name of the state and local entities, i.e., Hawaii Workforce Development Board and local workforce development boards.

The DLIR requests amending the measure to include the conflict-of-interest language found in Section 1 of HB2159 HD1 (companion measure). The department worked with the Hawaii State Ethics Commission to hone the language of this ethics provision to clarify the responsibilities of the Governor pursuant to Chapter 202 (HRS) and the provisions found in the WIOA.

The department also prefers the language for establishing the Board in the introduced measure instead of the SD1 ("established and placed within" pg. 2 line 15 SB3127).

SB-3127-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 2:02:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/2/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan S. Hayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: [COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS](#)

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Ways and Means and Members of the Committee on Judiciary

From: Alan S. Hayashi, Chairman Workforce Development Council

Subject: SB3127 SD1

RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS.

Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman of Committee on Ways and Means (WAM); Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair of WAM; Honorable Senator Karl Rhodes, Chair of the Committee on Judiciary; Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair of Judiciary; and members of the Joint Committees of Ways and Means and Judiciary:

My name is Alan Hayashi, Chairman of the Workforce Development Council (WDC).

We support the current SB3159 SD1 language, as the diverse Board membership from the various sectors of Business, Labor, Government, Military, and Agencies, enable the Workforce Development Council (WDC) the ability to receive workforce updates and input from many sectors of the broad Hawaii economy. As we state in our House testimony on HB2159, HD1 the WDC is organizationally structured into 7 active standing committees with an Executive Committee of 9 members that vote all major issues for presentation to the WDC Board of 41

authorized members. Though the WDC Board is currently authorized 41 members, we are fortunate have total voluntary Community participation of over 130 persons, indicating much Community interest and commitment to WDC issues and actions.

We also respectfully support the ability of the Workforce Development Council to have a role in the selection of the WDC Executive Director by submission of 3 names for final approval by the Governor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I will defer questions to the DLIR Director. However, I would be glad to answer any specific WDC questions, if requested.