JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAI`I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI`I 96804

> Date: 02/13/2023 Time: 03:10 PM Location: CR 229 & Videoconference Committee: Senate Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill:SB 0260RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to employ individuals as vocational, technical, or career pathway teachers. Authorizes Department of Education teachers to instruct vocation, technical, or career pathway classes without possessing an applicable bachelor's degree.

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) provides comments regarding SB 260.

The Department appreciates the effort to bolster vocational, technical and career pathway teachers. The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board currently has a process to allow individuals to obtain a permit or license as a Career and Technical Educational (CTE) teacher without a bachelor's degree. Individuals who obtain this permit or license can be considered for employment in the Department as a CTE teacher.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 260 relating to career and technical education.



STATE OF HAWAI'I HAWAI'I TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD 650 IWILEI ROAD, SUITE 268 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96817

February 12, 2023

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PERSON TESTIFYING: Felicia Villalobos, Interim Executive Director on behalf of the Hawaii Teacher Standard Board (HTSB)

DATE: February 12, 2023

TIME: 3:10 pm

LOCATION: Conference Room 229 and Video Conference

TITLE OF BILL: SB260 Relating to Career and Technical Education

PURPOSE OF BILL: Requires the Department of Education to employ individuals as vocational, technical, or career pathway teachers. Authorizes Department of Education teachers to instruct vocation, technical, or career pathway classes without possessing an applicable bachelor's degree.

POSITION: Comments SB260

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Mercado Kim, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

The Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) would like to provide comments for SB260.

HTSB appreciates the intent of this bill, however, what this bill is trying to do is already part of HTSB's licensure requirements for both HTSB's Standard Limited Career and Technical Standards Limited CTE License and HTSB's CTE Permit.

The Standard Limited Career and Technical Standards Limited CTE License does not require a bachelor's degree. To be issued this license, an applicant would need to hold a minimum of an associate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or the equivalent from a non-U.S. institution.

For an HTSB CTE Permit, an applicant does not require a bachelor's degree. They would provide a valid industry license or certification, if on exists, and three years of experience in the field in which instruction will be offered.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on SB260



February 12, 2023

To: Chair Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair Donna Mercado Kim and the Senate Committee on Education

Subject: SB260, Relating to Career and Technical Education

Aloha,

We are writing **IN SUPPORT** of **SB260**, which would provide vocational, technical, or career pathway classes in Department of Education schools. This measure will complement the current Farm to School initiative by bringing in farm workers and other farm related jobs into the classroom.

We are testifying in favor of **SB260** because vocational and technical education can provide a medium for community building and provide a better understanding to the specific field of expertise. There is an opportunity to make connections between in-class academics and to gain an understanding of the labor, the realistic working conditions, and the people behind the work that are in their community. Another opportunity is expanding on the existing Farm to School initiative which aims to eliminate the strong disconnect between children and where their food comes from. By employing farmers, farm hands, and others working on the farm, it provides better comprehension on what it takes to feed the community.

We urge the committee to pass SB260. We would like to thank Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the Senate Committee on Education, for considering the comments made herein.

Mahalo, Kelsey Amos & the Food+ Policy Team #fixourfoodsystem

The Food+ Policy internship develops student advocates who learn work skills while increasing civic engagement to become emerging leaders. We focus on good food systems policy because we see the importance and potential of the food system in combating climate change and increasing the health, equity, and resiliency of Hawai'i communities.

In 2023, the cohort of interns are undergraduate and graduate students from throughout the UH System. They are a mix of traditional and nontraditional students, including parents and veterans, who have backgrounds in education, farming, public health, nutrition, and Hawaiian culture.

<u>SB-260</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2023 11:21:48 AM Testimony for EDU on 2/13/2023 3:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a resident of Ka'u, I strongly support SB260.

Our rural schools already have difficulty finding credentialed teachers for academic subjects. Many of our students would benefit from vocational training in trades. SB260, which allows the hiring of teachers for vocational classes without a bachelors degree, will make it possible to offer classes that prepare our students for employment in lucrative trade jobs.

Please support SB260.

Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Chair Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Education

Mele Visser

Monday, February 13, 2023

Support for S.B. No. 260, Relating to Career and Technical Education

My name is Mele Visser, and I am pursuing my Master in Social Work degree at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Thompkins School of Social Work. I am testifying in favor of Bill SB260.

Higher education is not the path for everyone. According to the Hawai'i State Department of Education, the class of 2021 had 51% of their graduates attend college following graduation (hawaiipublicschools.org, 2023). Because many high school students may not pursue four-year universities, it is necessary to provide them with the skills and knowledge to be independent and thrive in trade and industry careers they find interesting. Our public schools need to support the youth to the best of their ability and provide them with the education, tools, and resources to equip them with the knowledge to become happy, successful, contributing individuals to their families and communities. Youth need support from educators whom they can relate and identify with. Vocational teachers with excellent communication skills, experience, knowledge, passion, and high-level technical skills can teach students practical, career-oriented skills.

In summary, it is essential that the opportunity to learn vocational and trade skills be provided to youth as an alternative to seeking four-year university education. Professionals leading successful lives in relevant fields can offer a unique perspective to youth not interested in higher education. Non-bachelor degree-holding, highly-qualified individuals should be given the opportunity to share their knowledge and craftsmanship with students. Teachers who are passionate and qualified in their fields can extend their experience to the classrooms and be role models for youth who struggle with what a future without a college degree will look like. Providing youth with relevant skills will empower them to create lives independent of state and government financial support. I supprt S.B. No. 260. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Mahalo, Mele Visser <u>mvisser@hawaii.edu</u>