



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

**Date:** 02/22/2023

**Time:** 10:00 AM

**Location:** CR 211 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Ways and Means

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 0391, SD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community Colleges' workforce development programs. (SD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports Senate Bill (SB) 391, SD 1, which appropriates funds to support the workforce development programs of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges (UHCC).

The Department appreciates the Legislature's support in increasing access to Early College courses and workforce training opportunities for high school students. SB 391 SD 1 would increase support for UHCC courses that lead to an industry-recognized credential in career and technical education fields that may prepare students for the workforce through short-term training and/or college degrees in academic areas that are required for employment. Workforce training opportunities offered by the community colleges have provided high school students with the knowledge and skills necessary for employment; priorities for workforce training for those who are seeking employment immediately after high school are in high-demand areas and for entry-level employment with opportunities to advance to a high-wage jobs. Additional funding will increase access to these programs and opportunities, enabling high school graduates to secure employment and to positively contribute to Hawaii's economy whether they pursue college (including technical education), military, and/or employment after high school.

Furthermore, SB 391, SD 1 supports Goal 1.3 of the newly approved Board of Education Strategic Plan: "All students graduate high school prepared for college and career success and community and civic engagement."

The Department respectfully requests that the passage of this bill not adversely affect the funding the Department currently receives for postsecondary and workforce development

opportunities and the priorities of the Department's Board of Education-approved budget.

The Department defers to the University of Hawaii Community Colleges with regards to the use of the funds appropriated in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
STATE COUNCIL  
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543  
February 22, 2023

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Thirty-Second Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT: SB391 SD1 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING.**

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB391 SD1**, which appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community Colleges' workforce development programs.

For the past decade, Hawaii has been at the bottom of the country for employing people with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). In recent years we have made strides as a state removing barriers to employment for individuals with I/DD by passing bills such as Ending minimum wage (Act 055, 2021) which ended the discriminatory practice of paying individuals with I/DD below our minimum wage laws in the state. Last year, we passed the Employment First Initiative (Act 308, 2022), committing to promote full integration of persons with a disability into the Hawai'i workforce.

This measure expands on that commitment by increasing opportunities for quality workforce education. Increased accessibility to training will promote a stronger workforce contribution from individuals with I/DD and can advance independence by increasing their ability to pursue decent employment.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB391 SD1**.

Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator



**LATE**

The Committee on Ways and Means  
10:00 AM, February 22, 2023  
Room 211

**RE: SB 391, SD 1, Relating to the University of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training**

Attention: Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee

The University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA) appreciates the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 391, SD1**, Relating to the University of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training Program.

The community college workforce training program provides practical experience focused on the skills and knowledge needed for a specific job, opening the door to gainful employment within a diverse range of occupations. Such training provides an alternative career path that does not rely upon for-credit college programs or degrees. This impactful program enables families to enter the workforce with practicable training that can be built upon to advance in the workplace and further educational opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Fern'.

Christian L. Fern  
Executive Director  
University of Hawaii Professional Assembly



**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**  
**‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII**

**LATE**

Legislative Testimony  
Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

By  
Della Teraoka  
Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Community Colleges  
University of Hawai'i System

**SB 391 SD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WORKFORCE TRAINING**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 391 SD1, which would utilize the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC) as a channel to assist in stimulating and revitalizing Hawaii's economic recovery through the colleges' workforce development programs.

Unique to the University, UHCCs' mission includes workforce development and personal development for career mobility. UHCCs take seriously its responsibility to provide a trained workforce, offering occupational, technical and professional courses and programs to prepare students for immediate employment and career advancement. Through its seven campuses and six education centers throughout the state, UHCCs provide accessible and affordable options for education and training through its degree and certificate programs and non-credit workforce training programs. UHCCs offer a range of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs including healthcare, human services, skilled trades, business, technology and agriculture. Last year, in its degree and certificate programs, UHCCs served 7,623 students in CTE majors, offered 2,355 CTE classes and awarded 2,573 degrees and Certificates of Achievement. In its non-credit workforce training programs, UHCCs provided over 17,000 training opportunities, some leading to industry-based certifications including federally recognized Registered Apprenticeship Programs for 2,401 apprentices in the trades and healthcare.

As the UHCCs expand to serve students through Early College programs, this bill will provide needed resources to ensure all 7 community colleges can support high school students interested in gaining workforce skills through Early College. Early College offerings will be expanded to include credit-based and non-credit workforce training curriculum to move students into the workforce immediately after high school or to provide a faster track into credit Career & Technical Education degrees and certificates at the community colleges.

UHCCs are committed to meeting the state's workforce needs. This includes aligning UHCCs' CTE programs with current and forecasted needs for skills and certifications as well as the number of trained residents for workforce needs and employment opportunities.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 391 SD1, as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 391 SD1.

**February 22, 2023**

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
State Capitol of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Chairman Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

ACT **SUPPORTS Senate Bill 391**, which invests in the students, workers, and workforce of Hawai'i by appropriating funds for University of Hawai'i Community Colleges Workforce Training.

We agree that, as SB 391 says: “programs that are designed to positively impact local employment pipelines and provide skills for students to succeed in jobs that pay not just the minimum wage, but a family—sustaining wage, are critical to rebuilding the post—pandemic economy and developing Hawai'i's future workforce.”

Expanding student's ability to pursue workforce training, and to take assessments that lead to a nationally recognized career readiness certificate (NCRC) will provide students with a vehicle to certify their readiness for jobs in in-demand industries that pay the competitive wages necessary to remain at home and support healthy families, strong communities, and a thriving local economy.

Investing in students' opportunity to acquire workforce training and to certify their career readiness is a crucial step in strengthening the talent pipeline between emerging employees and the employers who base site selection and expansion decisions on the availability of a career-ready workforce. At ACT, we know this:

- (1) Because of our interactions with local employers who choose to recruit employees with an NCRC because of the cost savings they realize from tailoring their recruitment efforts to candidates that can certify their career readiness by earning an NCRC;
- (2) From a policy perspective, because 22 states currently leverage the NCRC at a statewide level for K-12, postsecondary education, adult education, or workforce and economic development: and
- (3) From an economic development perspective: *Site Selection* magazine cites the number of NCRCs earned in each state within the preceding year as one of the six factors that comprise its rankings of the states.

For these reasons, we **support SB 391** and its proposed investment in the students and workforce of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Senate Bill 391.

**Stephanie Chavis Guillory**  
State Government Relations Director

### **State and Federal Programs**

500 ACT Dr. | Iowa City, Iowa 52243-0168  
mobile 225.288.0606 | [stephanie.guillory@act.org](mailto:stephanie.guillory@act.org) [www.ACT.org](http://www.ACT.org)



*Maui Hotel & Lodging*  
ASSOCIATION

**LATE**

Testimony of  
Lisa H. Paulson  
Executive Director  
Maui Hotel & Lodging Association

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
**Senate Bill 391 SD1: Relating To The University Of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training**  
February 22, 2023, 10:00 am  
Conference Room 211

The Maui Hotel & Lodging Association (MHLA) is the legislative arm of the visitor industry for Maui County. We represent over 180 property and allied business members and 22,000 employees. **MHLA supports Senate Bill 391 SD1**, which appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community Colleges' workforce development programs.

Workforce Development and support are vital to our State's economic development. Expanding access to serve students through Early College programs will provide needed resources to ensure all seven community colleges can support high school students interested in gaining workforce skills.

This Bill provides the much-needed support and funding for creating a talent pipeline here at home.

**MHLA supports Senate Bill 391 SD1.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



**SB-391-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/17/2023 1:21:48 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alexandra Chou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Workforce training is essential to sustain hawaii's ability to produce individuals who have the skills to be in the workforce

**SB-391-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/18/2023 4:00:15 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noel Morin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee members,

I SUPPORT SB391 SD1. Workforce development is critical for our economy and our transition to a sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Noel Morin Climate, Sustainability, and Resilience Advocate

Hilo

**SB-391-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/20/2023 10:36:01 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Workforce development programs can enable community members to develop the skills needed for stable, well-paying, and highly skilled jobs. People who are likely to benefit the most include those from disadvantaged backgrounds and those experiencing underemployment and unemployment. These programs can transform people’s lives because people with stable, well-paying jobs more likely not only will lead successful, satisfying lives but also will leverage more resources to invest in and give back to the community.

Furthermore, as the State of Hawaii legally committed itself to reach 100% clean renewable energy for electricity by 2045, the state should invest in programs to cultivate skills needed for the clean-energy industry. This industry will need a highly skilled workforce to find clean-energy sources, develop clean-energy technologies, design and build clean-energy projects, and operate and maintain them. Please invest in our community and our future renewable energy industry by supporting SB 391.

**LATE**

**SB-391-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2023 10:57:47 PM  
Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2023 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Amy Conte	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**SB 391: Relating to the University of Hawaii Community College Workforce Training**

**Chair Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Michelle Kidani and Members of the Committee**

**I am submitting this testimony to express my support for SB391, which appropriates funds to support the workforce development programs of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges.**

**Accessibility to education is key in supporting gainful employment opportunities for residents, and in turn helps develop Hawaii's workforce. Additional funding and creating access to these programs will provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to secure high-demand jobs and increase their earning potential.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 391.**