

#### STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO

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

**Date:** 02/23/2023 **Time:** 10:00 AM

Location: 308 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Committee: House Finance

**Department:** Education

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

Title of Bill: HB 0244, HD1 RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL

EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes a career and technical education working group to

strengthen career and technical education in the State's public schools. Makes an appropriation. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

# **Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) respectfully provides comments regarding HB 244, HD1.

The Department has rolled out 13 Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways to equip students with the skills necessary for in-demand jobs in the modern labor market. These CTE pathways link education with real-world activities and provide students with opportunities to attain work-based learning experiences, industry recognized credentials, and/or dual credit. The Department has and will continue to partner with industry and post-secondary partners to advise on pathway course standards, industry recognized credentials and workforce needs. Additionally, a work group is already being convened by the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) to discuss CTE teacher license requirements.

Due to the Department's ongoing collaborative work with regard to its CTE pathways rollout, as well as HTSB's work group focused on CTE teacher licensure, we recommend that a new work group is not needed at this time.

The Department appreciates the intent of this proposal and the inclusion of funding but

should this measure move forward, the Department asks that any funding does not affect the priorities in the Department's Hawaii State Board of Education-approved budget.

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



### HOUSE BILL 244, HD 1, RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 23, 2023 · HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE · CHAIR REP. KYLE YAMASHITA

**POSITION:** Support.

**RATIONALE:** The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus <u>supports</u> HB 244, HD 1, relating to career and technical education, which establishes a career and technical education working group to strengthen career and technical education in the state's public schools.

According the Hawai'i State Department of Education, "Career and Technical Education is an educational structure that allows students the opportunity to explore and learn through the practical application of academic and technical skills and knowledge. The support and involvement of business and industry in CTE is critical to the preparation of tomorrow's skilled workforce." Yet, there is concern among CTE stakeholders (teachers, industry experts, and employers) about the lack of CTE inclusion in federal education legislation. As a result of the federal emphasis on high stakes accountability over the past decade, secondary schools across the state have diverted CTE funding to tested subjects.

Most current job openings, both locally and nationally, are for positions that do not require a college degree. While education reform rhetoric endlessly extols "college and career readiness," recent job projections by the Hawai'i Department of Labor showed that, overall, more than 72 percent of the state's projected openings through last year (2022) required a high school diploma

or less. For comparison, about 15 percent of recent openings required a bachelor's degree and only 4 percent required a master's, doctoral, or professional degree.

Therefore, Hawai'i's CTE offerings must be expanded to allow young people to design their own futures. According to a national study, only 25 percent of polled job seekers reported receiving career pathing in high school, however, with 41 percent saying that they wished they had received more vocational guidance. Careers taught through the state's CTE program—from automotive technology to environmental management to digital media—are at the cutting edge of our local economy, requiring real-world skills that students and employers desire, and that the CCRI paradigm too often fails to advance.

Vocational training should be a viable alternative to college, which is increasingly cost prohibitive for working families. One way of increasing participation in CTE programming is to establish differential pay increases for the CTE teaching field, which is one of the highest vacancy fields in the local teaching profession. Approximately 44 percent of Hawai'i high school graduates do not seek post-secondary education of any kind. They deserve the opportunity to learn the industry-based skills that are required to join the 21<sup>st</sup> Century job market and become prosperous members of the modern workforce.

Kris Coffield · Chairperson, DPH Education Caucus · (808) 679-7454 · kriscoffield@gmail.com



Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.
By
Stephen Schatz, Executive Director
Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education

### HB244 HDI - RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on HB244 HD1 relating to establishing a Career and Technical Education working group.

Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education (Hawai'i P-20) commends the Legislature for its interest in Career and Technical Education (CTE) and we support the intent of the bill to bring together a variety of CTE stakeholders to work collaboratively to strengthen CTE in Hawai'i's public school system.

In 2021, the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents approved the reorganization that moved the Office of the State Director for Career and Technical Education under Hawai'i P-20. Since that time, Hawai'i P-20 has engaged in bringing together education and workforce stakeholders to collaborate on creating seamless pathways from high school to college and the workforce. We continue to strive to better prepare our students to meet current and future workforce needs.

HB244 HD1 proposes to establish a CTE working group within the Department of Education and details a number of its responsibilities. This proposed working group, however, could be duplicative of much of the work that is currently happening through existing routines and structures, such as the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment and CTE Annual Report required by Perkins V, the Work-Based Learning Intermediary Collaborative that is working on internships and opportunities for students in complexes and high schools across the State, and the Pathways Design Components and Indicators resource published by Hawai'i P-20.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this measure.

### HB-244-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2023 5:03:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Corey Rosenlee	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

Chair Yamashita and members of the Finance Committee,

I am Corey Rosenlee and I am a teacher at Campbell High School. I strongly support HB244.

The purpose of this bill is to come up with a plan to place Hawaii's public CTE program on the same level as the best CTE programs in the world and the US, which allow high school students to take up to half of their high school credits in CTE classes.

Currently the DOE has other workgroups in CTE including with HTSB and the Pathway Advisory Council.

How HB244 differs from these current workgroups is by laying out a vision for CTE expansion in this state will need to ask:

- 1. How many teachers will we need for students to take 50% of credits in CTE?
- 2. Once we know how many teachers, what incentives and programs will be needed to attract industry professionals and teachers willing to retrain to CTE?
- 3. Once we know how many teachers and the potential incentives how much will that cost and will the legislature fund this expansion?
- 4. Will the legislature or the BOE allow students to take 50% of their credits in CTE?
- 5. How many partners will we need in the business community?

This will require the DOE, the BOE, the legislature, HSTA, HGEA, HTSB, P-20 and the business community to work with one vision, with one cost. There is broad consensus that Hawaii needs to expand CTE, unless there is one plan we will not achieve the goal of helping many of our students be prepared for highly skilled jobs.

# HB-244-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2023 7:58:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry SUPPORT HB 244 RELATING TO CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION. This program will help enhance students career choices.