Date: 02/14/2019  
Time: 10:00 AM  
Location: 211  
Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0373 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

Purpose of Bill: Requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a K-12 curriculum-to-career-pipeline initiative to ensure that the State’s public school students are adequately trained and prepared to enter the State’s workforce upon graduation from high school. Appropriates funds.

Department’s Position:
The Department of Education (Department) supports SB 373 to establish a curriculum-to-career-pipeline initiative.

The Department is strongly committed to supporting, strengthening, and advancing a consolidated statewide effort to prepare students for a career pipeline with the appropriate skills, certification, licensing, or college credit to enter the workforce from high school.

Collaborating and consulting with the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, and the University of Hawaii to implement a K-12 curriculum-to-career-pipeline initiative is critical to ensuring the development of high quality and relevant learning experiences based on the needs of their students and the local community. Stakeholders across education, business, and industry would also be engaged.

Preparing students to be college and career ready starts at the earliest years of instruction through the school design process. Teacher collaboration and inviting the voices of students around their passions, interests, and aspirations builds ownership and growing investment in a thriving workforce.

The Department respectfully requests the allocation of one (1.0) FTE educational specialist position to coordinate the design and implementation of a comprehensive K-12 curriculum-to-career-pipeline initiative beginning school year 2019-2020 as we partner with vested stakeholders to boost Hawaii’s workforce.
Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 373.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.
February 13, 2019

To: Representative Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Representative Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

From: Maricaela Lobaton

Subject: Support of Senate Bill 373, Relating to Education

Aloha! My name is Maricaela Lobaton and I attend school at Kalaheo High in the Windward district. I would like to speak for Bill SB373, this states that a K-12 curriculum-to-career pipeline initiative would be implemented to prepare our students to join the workforce after high school. This bill should be passed because not only does it prepare those who are ready to enter the workforce immediately after high school are able to. Not to mention, it would still beneficial to those who do want to go to college after high school because they will be experienced in those certain subjects.

According to the details information included in SB373, it is expected that over the next decade, there will be 3,500,000 jobs for manufacturing open, but because of the skill gap, only 1,500,000 of those jobs will be filled. This confirms that we need the program because we are unable to fill all of the job gaps, only 43% of them. It’s vital that we have this program so that we can get those jobs. Pursuing these jobs is ideal because then it would also boost our economy. Not to mention, in the information provided in Sb371, it states only 56% of Hawaii’s high school graduates went into
college after high school, where does that leave the other 44%? There is no justification as to why only those who go to college should get good jobs. Everybody has different life stories, so where one kid is encouraged to go to college, another might have to work to support their family. Not to mention, although someone may want to go to college, they might not have the money or resources to follow through with their dreams. Multiple unexpected life changes can occur which can hinder someone from being able to go to college. This bill is fundamental for those who can’t/won’t go to college after high school: SB373 enables them to attain jobs without having a college degree. Having money to support themselves would also help with our homeless problem because we’ll have jobs to act as relief for us so we don’t have to turn to the streets. Of course, those who do plan on continuing onto college would still benefit from this bill. They will have more knowledge in these subjects which can help to put them ahead of their class in the long run.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I truly hope that you will support Senate Bill 373.
February 13, 2019

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

Date: Thursday, February 14, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Scott T. Murakami, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: S.B. No. 373 Relating to Education

SB373 proposes to require the Department of Education (DOE) to develop and implement a K-12 curriculum-to-career pipeline initiative to ensure that the State’s public-school students are adequately trained and prepared to enter the State’s workforce upon graduation from high school. DLIR supports the intent of this measure provided it does not conflict with the priorities identified in the Governor’s Biennium Budget request.

As noted in the narrative of this measure, there are workforce shortages in the technology-based occupations throughout the State. The passing of this measures and the funds appropriated to the DOE will help address the State’s immediate workforce needs in the technology industry shortage areas. DLIR, through funding for mini grants provided by the Legislature, has supported the technology workforce initiatives statewide.

The Department will continue to work with the DOE and the Community Colleges to also address various workforce shortages in other industries including agriculture, health, and hospitality.
TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Lauren Moriguchi, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: Measure: S.B. No. 373 – RELATING TO EDUCATION.
Hearing Date: February 14, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Room 211

Bill Description: Requires the Department of Education to develop and implement a K-12 curriculum-to-career-pipeline initiative to ensure that the State’s public school students are adequately trained and prepared to enter the State’s workforce upon graduation from high school. Appropriates funds.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON EARLY LEARNING’S POSITION: Support the Intent

Good morning. I am Lauren Moriguchi, Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL). EOEL supports the intent of S.B. 373, and respectfully requests that the Committee consider including other key industries or fields in Hawaii that are greatly lacking a pool of qualified workforce candidates, such as early childhood education.

EOEL is statutorily responsible for the development of the State’s early childhood system that shall ensure a spectrum of high-quality development and learning opportunities for children throughout the state, from prenatal care until the time they enter kindergarten, with priority given to underserved or at-risk children.

As we work to increase access to qualified early learning opportunities for our keiki, we must consider the severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators (i.e., those with coursework and background in early childhood, and supported with ongoing professional development, who research shows are most effective).

- Even as the EOEL Public Prekindergarten Program stands now with 26 classrooms across the state, we have difficulty recruiting and turnover is high (when teachers have not completed coursework in early childhood education and their assumptions about pre-K teaching are inconsistent with the knowledge and competencies required of teachers in settings for preschool-aged children).

- Because the Program targets our underserved and at-risk children, it is especially important to have teachers who are able to support preschoolers and families living in difficult circumstances. If not, what may result are increased instances of stress-induced behavior problems and inappropriate referrals to special education. Nationally,
suspensions and expulsions occur at a rate 3 times higher in public pre-K than in K-12. When vulnerable children encounter teachers who are unprepared to support their developmental needs, these children who can benefit the most from early learning are rejected at an even earlier age and their families are left without options.

Given the severely limited workforce of qualified early childhood educators in the state, we believe an initiative such as that proposed in this bill would be mutually beneficial for both the community and our students who are interested in entering the field of early childhood education.

Students would work toward a Child Development Associate certificate. We thank you for considering the inclusion of early childhood education if it fits within the parameters of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.
SB-373
Submitted on: 2/14/2019 7:25:57 AM
Testimony for WAM on 2/14/2019 10:00:00 AM

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