

LATE

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KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/10/2015
Time: 01:15 PM
Location: 224
Committee: Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 0374 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS.

Purpose of Bill: Renames the "running start program" as the "dual credit program". Broadens participation to include ninth and tenth graders. Replaces a standardized test with an assessment. Repeals tuition and fees requirement. Appropriates moneys to the DOE and the UH for positions.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports S.B 0374, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

The Department recognizes the critical importance of education as an investment in the future of our students and our state's economy. A well-educated and highly skilled workforce helps maintain Hawaii's economic competitiveness, supports higher tax revenues due to higher incomes, places fewer demands on social services, and improves civic engagement. Research has shown that students who earn college credit while in high schools are more likely to graduate, enroll in college, and earn a college degree.

Unfortunately, too many families cannot afford to provide this opportunity to their students. There is no legislative funding currently appropriated for dual credit programs, leaving students and their families to cover the cost for participating in programs such as Running Start. Given the demonstrated benefits of dual credit programs to students and the state as a whole, it is imperative that the state provide funding to allow as many students as possible access to these opportunities.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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WAIPAHU, HI 96797

Testimony presented before the
Senate Committees on Education and Higher Education & the Arts
February 10, 2015 at 1:15 pm
Keith Hayashi
Principal

SB 374 RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS
POSITION: Support

Aloha Chair Kidani, Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Waipahu High School began offering Early College courses in the Summer of 2012 through a partnership with the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. Thirty student pioneers in Psychology 100 garnered a 100% passing rate, an attendance rate of 98%, and a class grade average of 87%. For five weeks, these students began class at 9:00 AM, ended at noon, and returned for study sessions from 1:00 through 3:00 PM. These students were highly motivated and successful.

As a result, in the Fall of 2012, Waipahu High School partnered with Leeward Community College, offering English 100 and Speech 151. Once again our students did extremely well. And thanks to the generous support from the McInerney Foundation, Waipahu High School has continued to provide Early College opportunities for our underrepresented minority youth. Our enrollment in Early College has steadily grown, and in the Fall 2014 semester, 179 students were enrolled in college courses on the Waipahu High School campus.

High school students, poised and confident, are prepared to enter the next phase of their Early College journey by taking Early College courses at the college campus. Students who've leveraged dual credit opportunities and completed their high school credit requirements, can now focus intently on college coursework while still participating in high school athletics and extra-curricular activities. We currently have high school students who are full-time college students.

As some of you may recall, on August 26, 2014, a dozen Early College students exercised exceptional leadership and civic engagement by visiting with members of the Senate Education, House Education, and House Higher Education Committees and shared their personal stories, the transformative power of Early College. They shared how their Early College opportunities gave them confidence when they thought that college was not an option. They shared how the positive impact of Early College has influenced their families, siblings, and friends. They shared how they believed that Early College opportunities should be available to all high school students. Their stories are why we must continue to fully support the Early College movement for all students in Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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Senate Committee on Education
Senator Michelle Kidani, Chair
Senator Breen Harimoto, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Lorraine Inouye, Vice Chair

February 10, 2015

Dear Chairs Kidani and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Harimoto and Inouye, and Committee Members:

This testimony is in support of SB374, which replaces the running start program and jump start program with dual credit programs.

The Hui for Excellence in Education (HE'E) is a diverse coalition of over 40 parent and community organizations dedicated to improving student achievement by increasing family and community engagement and partnerships in our schools. Our member list is attached.

The Coalition understands that having a post-secondary degree gives choices to our youth, allowing them to prepare for jobs in our workforce as well as challenging them with higher-level thinking. However, we hear that many students do not think that college is an option because they do not have the confidence or the financial support. Jump Start and Running Start Programs have allowed high school students to experience college classes, start accumulating college credits and gain the confidence that they can succeed in a post-secondary program. We applaud these programs for giving students the opportunity and exposure while still in high school.

We support this bill, which expands the eligibility to 9th grade, giving more students the opportunity to participate in the dual credit programs. In addition, we support the financial appropriation, which will allow students to participate in dual credit programs tuition free. From a parent, family and student perspective, the cost of college tuition is extremely daunting. If a student can participate in their high school years to gain college credits tuition free, it eases the burden on families and the student, especially for those families and students who are contemplating pursuing a post-secondary education because of costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Our support of this bill represents a 75% consensus or more of our membership.

Sincerely,

Cheri Nakamura
HE'E Coalition Director

Academy 21
After-School All-Stars Hawaii
Alliance for Place Based Learning
*Castle Complex Community Council
*Castle-Kahuku Principal and CAS
Center for Civic Education
Coalition for Children with Special Needs
*Faith Action for Community Equity
Fresh Leadership LLC
Girl Scouts Hawaii
*Good Beginnings Alliance
Harold K.L. Castle Foundation
*Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice
Hawai'i Athletic League of Scholars
*Hawai'i Charter School Network
*Hawai'i Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition
*Hawaii State PTSA
Hawai'i State Student Council
Hawai'i State Teachers Association
Hawai'i P-20
Hawai'i 3Rs
Head Start Collaboration Office
It's All About Kids
*INPEACE
Joint Venture Education Forum
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
*Kaho'omiki
Kamehameha Schools
Kanu Hawai'i
*Kaua'i Ho'okele Council
Keiki to Career Kaua'i
Kupu A'e
*Leaders for the Next Generation
Learning First
McREL's Pacific Center for Changing the Odds
Our Public School
*Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

*Parents and Children Together
*Parents for Public Schools Hawai'i
Punahou School PUEO Program
Teach for America
The Learning Coalition
US PACOM
University of Hawai'i College of Education
YMCA of Honolulu

Voting Members () Voting member organizations vote on action items while individual and non-voting participants may collaborate on all efforts within the coalition.*

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KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

TO: Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Chair
Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Honorable Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Education
Members of the Committee on Higher Education and the Arts

DATE: February 10, 2015
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 224
Hawai'i State Capitol

FROM: Kamehameha Schools

RE: **SENATE BILL 374, RELATING TO DUAL CREDIT PROGRAMS.**

Chair Kidani, Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Harimoto, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committees,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 374, relating to dual credit programs.

Kamehameha Schools offers comments in support of renaming the "running start program" as the "dual credit program." The action of this measure would broaden participation to include ninth and tenth grader students who demonstrate an aptitude and motivation for higher education. The language seeks to replace the use of standardized tests with a personal assessment. This action provides for greater appraisal of a student's preparation for scenarios more likely to be encountered in higher education.

Kamehameha Schools supports promoting the achievement and success of all of Hawai'i's students and, as such, seeks to continue as a contributor and collaborator with Hawaii's Department of Education. We find that an investment in opportunities such as expanding and retooling the existing program will significantly impact more children and their families through education. We believe the support of this measure is a choice for progressive education; one that will ultimately enhance both achievement and engagement for students across Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.