

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LESLIE WILKINS
CHAIRPERSON

ALLICYN C.H. TAsAKA
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 417, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 586-8630 / Fax: (808) 586-8674
Web: <http://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/>

March 11, 2016

To: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

From: Allicyn Tasaka, Interim Executive Director

RE: HB 2362 HD2 Relating to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council
Hearing: Tuesday, March 15, 2016, 9:00 a.m., Room 016

POSITION: SUPPORT with Proposed Amendment

Good morning Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor. I am Allicyn Tasaka, Interim Executive Director of the Hawaii Workforce Development Council (WDC) testifying in support with proposed amendment to HB 2362 HD2 Relating to the Hawaii Workforce Development Council. WDC is responsible for administrative oversight and implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in Hawaii. This includes managing the governance structure, grant signatory, grant oversight and grant reporting as well as the allocation of funds, issuing policy and procedural guidance and conducting fiscal and program monitoring.

The purpose of this measure is to conform Chapter 202, Hawaii Revised Statutes to WIOA of 2014, Public Law No. 113-128, which was effective July 1, 2015. WIOA supersedes the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and has different council composition requirements, different state workforce development system plan specifications, and different council functions. This measure if enacted, will bring Hawaii's WDC into compliance with WIOA and ensure that over \$6,000,000 annually in federal funds for workforce development continues.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

We request that the effective date in Section 6 read:

This Act shall take effect upon approval.

The effective date changed to upon approval is important to enable the WDC to continue its

efforts to comply with new federal rules and regulations, carry out necessary business with the WDC board, and receive millions of dollars in federal funding.

WDC is currently working with core partners and stakeholders on a WIOA Hawaii Unified State Plan that outlines a 4-year strategy for the State's workforce development system to integrate service delivery across programs and improve efficiency in service delivery and to ensure that the workforce system is job-driven and matches employers with skilled individuals. The plan is due to the U.S. Department of Labor on April 1, 2016.

Statewide core partners and stakeholders includes the Governor's office, all county Mayor's offices, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (Workforce Development Division, Research and Statistics Office, Unemployment Insurance Division), Department of Human Services (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Employment, Employment and Support Services Division for TANF), Department of Education (Adult Education), Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, all county Workforce Development Boards, Economic Development Alliance, and the University of Hawaii (Office for Career and Technical Education, Community Colleges, Workforce Development), among others.

We respectfully request that the committee pass this measure with the proposed amendment. Thank you for this opportunity to present our testimony in support.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
March 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

by
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

HB 2362 HD2 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2362 HD2. The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC) strongly supports House Bill 2362 House Draft 2. This measure aligns the HRS with administrative changes required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.

Your support of the UH Community Colleges is greatly appreciated. We look forward to continuing our active and committed engagement in these public-private partnerships and advancing academic development efforts.