



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
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By

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SCR 168/SR 82 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP
AND IMPLEMENT A STATE PLAN FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE
EDUCATION IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Chairs Kidani, Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SCR 168/SR 82 that requests the Hawai'i Department of Education to develop and implement a state plan for computer science education in all public schools and requests the University of Hawai'i, as part of its admissions process, to allow students to substitute computer science courses for other required course credits.

The University of Hawai'i (UH) does not support substituting computer science courses for the foundational science courses such as biology, chemistry, and physics, or math. Instead, UH encourages high school students to supplement the existing science foundation with computer science courses, particularly students intending to go into the STEM fields such as information and communications technology (ICT). At UH four-year campuses, students who have earned college level credits in a computer science course may use these credits toward one or more of their electives, or towards their degree requirements as appropriate.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide comments on SCR 168/SR 82.