SB 2242 SD2 – Relating to Education

Chairs Woodson and Johanson, and Vice Chairs Kong and Holt, and Members of the Committees:

As the Hawai‘i State Director for Career and Technical Education (CTE), I support the spirit and the intent of SB 2242 SD2 which establishes a workforce microgrant program for high school students for costs associated with technical or workforce training, with the caveat that any funds allocated for this initiative do not diminish the overall budget for the Hawai‘i DOE.

The State Office for CTE administers the $5.6M Carl D. Perkins grant awarded to Hawai‘i annually by the US DOE. The main purpose of the Perkins grant is to promote the development of services and activities that integrate rigorous academic and career and technical instruction in the 43 DOE high schools and the 7 UH community colleges. Additionally, Perkins legislation mandates that this office collaborate with the State’s Workforce System. This focus on collaboration between Education and Labor has intensified since the passage of the US DOL Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the US DOE Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The intent of this bill is in alignment with the goals and objectives of the WIOA, ESSA, and the State CTE plans.