



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
February 23, 2012 at 9:00AM

by
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges, University of Hawai‘i

SB 2522 – RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR VETERINARIANS

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Windward Community College is highly supportive of the intent of S.B. NO. 2522 Relating to Continuing Education for Veterinarians. As the only provider in the State of a credit Certificate of Achievement program for Veterinary Assisting and as a campus currently finalizing its preparations to seek approval from the U.H. Board of Regents for an Associate of Science degree in Veterinary Technology the College is well connected to an active Veterinary Studies Advisory Committee. Through its Office of Career and Community Education (OCCE) the College is experienced with the contracting challenges in offering significant continuing education opportunities for clients requiring services at a high level of professional expertise. Should the proposed legislation become law OCCE would be interested in applying to the American Association of Veterinary State Boards for *Provisional Provider Status* to be accepted into its Registry of Approved Continuing Education (RACE) sites to provide veterinarians with access to highly qualified speakers. With six months of qualifying experience OCCE could then apply for permanent approval as a RACE site. Providing such services would have to be on a self-supporting financial basis for the program and these details would have to be carefully reviewed before a formal proposal could be made. However the activity is very pertinent to a field of interest and expertise for the College. Moreover the effort to support high standards for professional development opportunities in the field of Veterinary Medicine is consistent with the direction taken in the College’s development plans for its academic credit program, as well as the College’s continuing education interests.