



# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

## **Legislative Testimony**

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Lower and Higher Education  
Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

By

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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

And

Donald Straney,

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### **SB 818 SD2 – RELATING TO SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST**

Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Perruso, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 818 SD2, which provides specific licensure requirements for school psychologists employed by schools to be exempt from licensure requirements under Chapter 465. The College offers the following comments.

The College supports the licensure of School Psychologists through the Hawai'i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB). While there is no certification licensure for School Psychologist, it is important to have specific conditions in which they deliver service to an array of students and community. This inconsistency between licensed and unlicensed School Psychologist may cause confusion and inequity within the profession. Because the State does not have certification of licensure for school psychologists, it is important to specify the conditions in which a school psychologist is exempt from licensure under chapter 465. Consequently, it is necessary to establish a licensure program to ensure the employment of qualified school psychologists to work within the scope of a school setting only and to allow schools utilizing school psychologists to properly seek available federal Medicaid funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.