Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Education
March 16, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

By
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SB 516 SD1 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Woodson, Vice Chair Kapela, and members of the Committee:

As the State Director for Career and Technical Education (CTE) which falls under the University of Hawai‘i, I support the intent of SB 516 SD1 with comments and recommended revisions.

This bill would require the State Board for CTE to oversee and annually review statewide data collection processes and reporting requirements related to the student attainment of industry-recognized credentials, and annually report to the Governor and the Legislature on its findings.

NOTE: a great deal of progress has been made over the last year through cross-agency collaboration to determine which credentials Hawaii’s employers value and endorse. Representatives of each of the stakeholder agencies are currently collaborating on data definitions, collection, reporting, analysis, and most importantly, the data-sharing agreements that ensure the data meets all security requirements. This is but one part of a comprehensive revamping of the indicators of student and program success, and economic impact.

After further conversation with partner agencies, we offer these recommendations:

1. Representatives from the agencies would appreciate the opportunity to work with the Legislature to address the specificity of the language in the bill and correct the statements about the “Promising Credentials Committee.”
2. There is significant work still to be done to create the protocols and processes to do this with integrity – and to then implement the plan and create the report. The work of organizing and implementing data collection and reporting across all agencies statewide is unlikely to be completed by July 1, 2022, as required by the bill. A progress report on this work could be delivered to the Governor and the Legislature by July, 1, 2022, however, I would respectfully recommend that the complete report be set for July 1, 2023.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.