



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

## TESTIMONY

SB 2703

RELATING TO TEACHER CADET PROGRAM

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Education and Military Affairs

February 8, 2006

By

Peter Quigley  
Interim Chancellor for Leeward Community College  
University of Hawai'i

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S.B. 2703 RELATING TO TEACHER CADET PROGRAM

Chair Sakamoto and Members of the Committee:

Leeward Community College (LCC) supports the intent of Senate Bill 2703 which provides funding to operate the Teacher Cadet Program, a Hawaii Alliance for Future Teachers (HAFT) initiative intended to encourage and support high school students who want to make a career of teaching in Hawaii public schools. LCC supports the development of a program which targets students interested in an educational career at the high school level so that when these students enroll in higher education they have already made some decisions about teaching as a career, and have information, field experience, and insight into teaching in Hawaii schools.

LCC serves the Leeward and Central districts of the DOE, where teacher shortages and turnover are especially critical. In addition, the number of Hawaiian, Part-Hawaiian, and Filipino students enrolled at LCC is the highest of any campus in the University of Hawaii system. These ethnic groups are also underrepresented among DOE teachers.

The Teacher Cadet Program will prepare students for LCC's newly established Associates in Arts in Teaching (AAT) degree program, which is intended to prepare students for transfer to a bachelor's degree in education. With the cooperation of all levels of public school education system, students will have a direct pathway to a career in education.

We thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.