



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

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by

John Morton, Interim Vice President for Community Colleges

SB 0016 Relating to the Hawai'i Construction Workforce Plan

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC) stands in support of the proposed SB 0016, Relating to the Hawai'i Construction Workforce Plan (Action Plan), which appropriates funds to the Hawai'i Institute for Public Affairs (HIPA) via the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) for implementation of the Action Plan.

The final product of the initial grant to HIPA in 2004 created the Action Plan. The plan's recommendations include the following strategies:

1. Improve the readiness of persons interested in entering apprenticeship programs and increase the proportion of applicants who are accepted into apprenticeship programs;
2. Improve apprenticeship program retention and completion;
3. Increase numbers of persons applying to apprenticeship programs in general, and to targeted trades in particular, through targeted marketing and outreach campaigns; and
4. Continue and expand efforts to develop, organize, coordinate, monitor, and report on workforce development initiatives outlined in this plan.

As the State's primary apprenticeship training campuses, UHCC has always advocated programs that will help to produce the best trained most qualified apprentices. We believe the recommendations as stated above will aid in our efforts.

We look forward to working with HIPA, Hawai'i's trade unions, and the DLIR in implementing the strategies outlined in the Action Plan.