



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 22, 2007

by
Kathy Jaycox
Interim Executive Director, Hawai'i P-20 Initiative

SB 683, SD 1 -- Relating to the Running Start Program for College Preparation

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

My name is Kathy Jaycox, and I am the Interim Executive Director of the Hawai'i P-20 Initiative. In this role, I convene the meetings of the Running Start Task Force -- a joint DOE-UH group which meets at least quarterly to support implementation of the Running Start Program in Hawai'i. I am writing to testify in regard to Senate Bill 683, SD1, which appropriates \$50,000 in each year of the fiscal biennium to provide scholarships to students in underrepresented populations in higher education, enabling them to participate in the Running Start program throughout the University of Hawai'i System. This bill also ensures that credit for both high school and college degrees is granted for courses taken while in the program.

I fully support the intent of this bill -- both regarding its provision of scholarship funds and regarding its assurance that credits earned will apply both to high school diplomas and to college degrees.

I express the caution, however, that these funds should not replace any funding priorities already established by the Board of Regents within the University's institutional budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to express support for Senate Bill 683, SD1. Should you have any questions, I shall be happy to address them.