



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
January 29, 2007

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

SB 688 -- Relating to Education

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kathy Jaycox, and I am the Interim Executive Director of the Hawai'i P-20 Initiative. On behalf of the leadership of the Hawai'i P-20 Initiative (Good Beginnings Executive Director Elisabeth Chun, DOE Superintendent Patricia Hamamoto and UH President David McClain), I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 688, which appropriates \$50,000, in each year of the fiscal biennium to the P-20 Initiative for the initiation and development of plans for education in Hawaii in the new century.

This bill calls upon the Hawai'i P-20 Council to "develop and initiate plans for education in Hawaii in the new century, including identifying contributors and planners, creating a vision, goals, objectives and timelines, and organizing meetings and electronic communication. The general goals of the effort will be to ensure an engaged, responsible, and productive citizenry in Hawaii in the new century that is the expected result of an education system and schools that are coordinated and articulated from earliest teaching to career and work force preparation and to promote lifelong learning." Such work is entirely consistent with the Hawai'i P-20 Strategic Plan for 2006-2010. In 2006, the first year of the five-year plan, the P-20 Council focused its efforts on its own statewide responsibilities, especially resource development and the gathering and analysis of data. The next stage of the strategic plan is to develop regional councils which, like the statewide council, will bring together public and private educators, governmental officials, and community leaders to improve learner achievement. These

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legislative resources will enable the community meetings and electronic communication necessary to building such community-based efforts.

On behalf of the P-20 Leadership, though, I also express the caution that these funds -- if conveyed either to the Department of Education or to the University of Hawai`i on behalf of the P-20 Initiative -- should not replace any funding priorities already established by the Board of Education or the Board of Regents within their respective institutional budgets.

Thank you for this opportunity to express support for Senate Bill 688. Should you have any questions, I shall be happy to address them.