



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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Senate Committees on Higher Education
and
Education and Housing

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Written Testimony
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SB 2432: RELATING TO HAWAII INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UH Mānoa) supports SB 2432, repealing the law establishing the Hawai'i Institute for Educational Partnerships (HIEP).

The proposed legislation reflects the recommendation submitted by the UH Mānoa's College of Education (COE) in its November 2009 Annual Report to the Legislature on the Hawai'i Institute for Education Partnership (HRS 304A-1203). As noted in the annual report, HIEP was created in 1986 to facilitate closer working relationships between the COE and the Department of Education (DOE) and to support joint work with the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER). Financial support for the HIEP is provided solely by the COE.

Since the implementation of the law, the COE has developed strong working relationships with the DOE and has sought to strengthen teacher education, with a particular focus on partnerships with local schools. Recent budget constraints have led to withdrawal of membership from the NNER. However, the activities recommended by NNER are ongoing in the COE. There is a continuing commitment to working in partnership with schools and to work collaboratively with the DOE to strengthen education in Hawai'i. In addition, the COE has now established a Mānoa Partnerships office that it maintains with its own resources.

We urge the legislature to approve SB 2432 and repeal HRS 304A-1203 relating to the establishment of the HIEP.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.