



Testimony to the Senate Committees on
Education and Judiciary and Labor
February 22, 2017 at 2:45 p.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 229

RE: SB 49 Relating to Education

Aloha members of the Committee:

We are Cara Heilmann and John Knorek, the Legislative Committee co-chairs for the Society for Human Resource Management – Hawaii Chapter (“SHRM Hawaii”). SHRM Hawaii represents more than 800 human resource professionals in the State of Hawaii.

We are writing to support SB 49, which requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the Workforce Development Council on workforce development initiatives. We have longstanding partnerships and collaborate with the Department of Labor & Industrial Relations, the state Workforce Development Council and the Department of Education. Recently, SHRM Hawaii was recognized with a national award for a workforce development initiative, which included the approval of an HR pathway, with the state Department of Education. We strongly support the DOE’s efforts to promote workforce development.

Human resource professionals are keenly attuned to the needs of employers and employees. We are the frontline professionals responsible for businesses’ most valuable asset: human capital. We truly have our employers’ and employees’ interests at heart. We will continue to review this bill and, if it advances, request to be a part of the dialogue concerning it.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

