



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts  
Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

By  
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### HB 422 – RELATING TO SELECTIVE SERVICE

Chair Ito, Vice Chair Tokioka, and members of the committee:

HB 422 requires compliance with the Military Selective Service Act to qualify for state financial assistance, which would include loans, grants, scholarships and tuition waivers or other financial assistance for post-secondary education that is provided by the state.

The intent of HB 422 is laudable; however, the University has concerns about its operational impacts and programmatic concerns related to enrollment and financial resources.

All individuals who apply for federal financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are data matched through the Selective Service confirmation process and males are afforded the option to automatically register for Selective Service. This FAFSA information is downloaded to the University's student information system. Since not all high school graduates venture into higher education nor apply for federal financial aid, the yield to the US Military Selective Service may not be as high as anticipated. Perhaps, the yields would be greater if all age appropriate males would comply with the requirements *prior to graduating from high school*.

In gauging the practices across the country, only eight states currently require selective service registration prior to enrollment in a state-supported institution of higher education.

Should HB 422 pass, there will be major impacts on the workload of frontline operations, involving the altering of computerized and manual workflows to the University financial aid application processes. This will involve overtime and/or the need for additional human resources to comply. HB 422 has the potential of affecting student enrollments negatively which will have a consequential impact on the quality of student life as well as the financial resources available on the University's campuses. Finally, the bill's applicability to continuing students (i.e. those already enrolled) will require ample planning, foresight, and anticipation to minimize disruption in their continued enrollment and persistence.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure. The University understands the intent of this bill, and is concerned about its impact on operations, workflow, and enrollment.