



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Government Operations
and
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
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by
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SB 209 – RELATING TO SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER PROTECTION

Chairs Kim and Baker, Vice Chairs Ruderman and Nishihara, and members of the committees:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of SB 209, but would like to offer an amendment. On page 1, lines 5 and 6, we suggest the following language be added to clarify the university's role in collecting social security numbers (SSN):

“(a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary and except as provided in Section 487J-2b,…”

While UH supports the protection of SSN, §487J-2b, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), expressly states exemptions for documents required as part of an application or enrollment process as well as for entities that conduct social or scientific research. It also exempts government agencies who provide SSN to other federal, state or local government entities. Furthermore, §27-7, HRS, directs the UH, Hawai'i State Department of Education (DOE) and the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) to share data that support research that will improve Hawaii's education and workforce outcomes.

Since 2009, UH, DLIR, and DOE have partnered together, under Hawai'i P-20 Partnerships for Education, to share education and workforce data under §27-7 in order to understand the longitudinal impact of education and other initiatives on workforce outcomes. This research linking education data to the Hawai'i workforce can only occur if SSN are collected.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.