



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
March 21, 2017 at 2:02 p.m.

By
Donald O. Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 560 SD1 HD1 – RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. I support the intent of SB 560 SD1 HD1 to fund the University of Hawai'i to translate the Hawai'i state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

UH Hilo views the proposal as a positive step in the continued revitalization of the Hawaiian language. Our College of Hawaiian Language, Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani has the expertise and capacity to provide translation of the state constitution should SB 560 SD1 HD1 be enacted.

UH Hilo supports this measure on the condition that any requested funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Biennium budget request.

Thank you for your consideration, and the opportunity to provide testimony.