



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Submitted to the
Senate Committees on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health and
Ways & Means

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

By

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SB 720 – RELATING TO THE CONCUSSION PROGRAM

Chairs Baker and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Nishihara and Dela Cruz, and members of the committees:

My name is Donald Young, and I serve as Dean of the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am pleased to submit written testimony in support of SB 720, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents Approved Biennium Budget. This measure makes an appropriation for the concussion education and monitoring program for school athletics and youth athletic activities.

Pursuant to Act 262, enacted on July 12, 2016 by Governor David Ige, the Department of Kinesiology and Rehabilitation Science, College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa provided a 2017 legislative report that expanded the scope of the concussion educational program under ACT 197 to include youth and incorporate additional program requirements. Moreover, Act 262 provided appropriations to develop and implement the concussion monitoring and educational programs and to administer concussion testing to high school student athletes.

As such, SB 720 continues the effort by the University of Hawai'i for the fiscal year 2018-2019 as follows:

- (1) Development and implementation of the concussion monitoring and educational program for school athletics required by Act 197, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2012, as amended by Act 262, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2016;
- (2) Development and implementation of a concussion and awareness program for youth athletic activities required by Act 262, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2016; and
- (3) Administration of concussion testing of high school student athletes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony.