



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
August 30, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

by

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WRITTEN ONLY

GM 34 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Western Interstate Commission For Higher Education, Gubernatorial Nominee, Colleen Sathre, for a term to expire 6-30-2021.

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of Governor's Message 34 and the appointment of Dr. Colleen Sathre to serve on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) for the State of Hawai'i.

I have known Dr. Sathre for nearly 30 years and worked closely with her at the University of Hawai'i for nearly 20 years, until her retirement. More recently we have served together as two of Hawai'i's WICHE Commissioners. I can assure you that she is an excellent, dedicated and respected Commissioner and would continue as such if reappointed.

Dr. Sathre has spent her entire career in public service, giving back to her community through her commitment to education. Her passion and dedication for increasing higher education opportunity for all students was clearly demonstrated through her 27 years of progressively responsible service to UH culminating in her vice presidency. In addition, she served as higher education planning consultant for the Consortium of Pacific Education, past board member of the Hawai'i Organization of Women Leaders, and service for a term as the coordinator of the Hawai'i Network of the American Council on Education's National Identification Program for Women in Academic Administration.

I am confident that Dr. Sathre would continue to work diligently for the collective good of the 15 members of WICHE on the vast range of educational challenges and opportunities we all face. Dr. Sathre understands first-hand the need for creative and thoughtful solutions to hard problems, and knows what it takes to implement strategic initiatives at scale. These characteristics, and her extensive experience working with Boards in both the public and non-profit sectors, will enable Dr. Sathre to continue to serve with distinction. She is an articulate and steadfast representative of Hawai'i and would serve our State well in a continuing role as one of Hawai'i's WICHE Commissioners.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **strong support** of Governor's Message 34 and I respectfully urge you to consent to Dr. Colleen Sathre's nomination to serve on the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.