



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Human Services and
Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
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By

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and

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SB 2211 – RELATING TO CONCUSSIONS

Chairs Green and Baker, Vice Chairs Chang and Tokuda, and members of the committees:

The University of Hawai'i, College of Education (COE) supports the intent of the SB 2211. Act 197 in 2012 addressed the Concussion Management Program (CMP) and concussion education for coaches, parents, school personnel, and high school student athletes which continues to be implemented and supported by the COE, Kinesiology & Rehabilitation Science Department (KRS), Hawai'i High School Athletic Association and Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE). Act 262 in 2016 expanded the scope of concussion education to age 11. The COE KRS has developed educational programs for high school and youth organizations and will be studying the effectiveness of these educational programs.

The UHM COE would like to offer the following amendments:

1. Delay the implementation of this bill to FY20. KRS is currently developing middle and elementary school-level curricula to address head injuries and spinal cord trauma including concussion education.
2. Increase the appropriation of funds section to manage the effectiveness of the concussion education for under 19 years of age to support updates of education as new research develops.
3. Add to Section 2, number 9. All youth organizations utilizing City and County and or State facilities must submit a concussion action plan, which includes concussion education, to permitting agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2211.