SB 2224 SD1 – RELATING TO TOURISM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2224 SD1. This bill renames the convention center enterprise special fund as the convention center operations and maintenance special fund and repeals the allocation of TAT revenues to that fund, and amends the allowable uses of that fund. It also redistributes transient accommodations tax revenue from the Hawai‘i Tourism Authority to different state agencies, including the University of Hawai‘i.

The University of Hawai‘i appreciates the bill authors’ recognition that UH is a major contributor promoting Hawai‘i in the areas of education, educational exchange, athletics, intellectual property, etc. While the University would appreciate and could use additional funding, we are also very cognizant about limited state funding resources for all agencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 2224 SD1.