SB 2687 Proposed SD1 - RELATING TO HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE

Chairs Shimabukuro, Kahele, and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Galuteria, Kim, and Rhoads, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Marcia Sakai, Interim Chancellor of the University of Hawai’i at Hilo (UH Hilo). I support the intent of SB 2687 Proposed SD1 to fund the University of Hawai’i to translate the Hawai’i state constitution into the Hawaiian language.

This proposal supports UH Hilo’s College of Hawaiian Language, Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke’elikōlani (KH‘UOK) continuing focus on revitalizing the Hawaiian language and efforts to broaden workforce opportunities for students who pursue degrees in Hawaiian Studies and Hawaiian Language. KH‘UOK has the expertise and capacity to provide translation of the state constitution into the Hawaiian language should SB 2687 Proposed SD1 be enacted.

UH Hilo supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Supplement Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2687 Proposed SD1. Aloha.