HCR 192 / HR 144 URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I TO PARTNER WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO PRESERVE THE STATE’S HISTORICAL MAPS THROUGH DIGITAL MAPPING

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Higher Education

March 31, 2005

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Chair Waters, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HCR 192 / HR 144. The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Library supports the over-all concept of this bill as it includes initiatives supportive of our goals and objectives, but we are concerned about the cost implications generated by this proposal.

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Library is happy to collaborate with other University and State entities to work together to establish a high quality digitizing process that meets national standards. Such effort will ensure the preservation of historic Hawaii maps owned by the UH, DLNR and other agencies. We are supportive of this resolution providing that funding is available for such an effort and providing that this does not adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University’s Executive Biennium Budget.

Since the flood of October 30, 2004, the Library of Congress has begun digitizing relevant Hawaii historical maps on behalf of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Library. Collaboration as proposed by this resolution would continue the good work that has already started and benefit the community, students and future researchers.