HB 3190
RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
PERTAINING TO WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education

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by

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HB 3190 RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS PERTAINING TO WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

The University of Hawai‘i strongly supports the intent of HB 3190. The purpose of this bill is to make a capital improvements program (CIP) appropriation for Windward Community College.

Section 1 of HB 3190 proposes an appropriation of $36.381 million for Windward Community College’s Library and Learning Resource Center. The Board of Regents’ CIP Budget for Supplemental Year 2006-2007 includes $2.590 million in general obligation bonds for the design of the project. Given the time requirements for design, we do not foresee a need for construction and equipment funding at this time.

The University supports the intent of the last paragraph of Section 1 of HB 3190 (Page 1, lines 12 through 17), as it pertains to energy efficiency and sustainable design as established by the United States Green Building Council. However, we are concerned with establishing a minimum rating level (i.e. silver) for new construction or major renovation work, as this will have a major impact on the total cost of developing/renovating a facility. We are currently unaware of any public facility in Hawai‘i that meets the silver standard which is stipulated in Section 1; therefore, we recommend omitting the section, or amending it to read as follows:

The University shall implement sustainable design technology in new construction and major renovation projects to the extent possible and feasible within the total project appropriation.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on HB 3190.