



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

---

Testimony Submitted to the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
February 11, 2014 at 2:00 pm  
by  
David Lassner  
Interim President  
University of Hawai'i

### HB 2266 HD1 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COSTS

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i strongly supports House Bill 2266 HD1 making an appropriation to support University of Hawai'i collective bargaining agreement costs for Unit 7 members and their excluded counterparts.

This is a high priority request included in the Board of Regents Budget and is fully supported by the Governor in the Executive Budget.

These funds represent the restoration of general funds for faculty salaries that were reduced during the recession, as well as for the modest 3 percent salary increases that were negotiated for each year of this biennium. This funding request is fully consistent with the appropriations made for all other public employee collective bargaining unit settlements.

The funding requested in this bill is an important cornerstone for supporting the financial sustainability of the University of Hawai'i system and for enabling us to provide the 21<sup>st</sup>-century facilities for learning that our students need and deserve. We consider this item to be our highest funding priority within our FY15 supplemental operating budget.

We respectfully ask for legislative support for the restoration of faculty salaries to their base levels, as was done for all other collective bargaining units, and for these modest negotiated collective bargaining increases that are consistent with all other collective bargaining settlements for this biennium.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of House Bill 2266 HD1.