



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Judiciary & Labor and
Ways & Means

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By

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HB 52 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO THE SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION AWARENESS AND COMPLIANCE ACT

Chairs Keith-Agaran and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Shimabukuro and Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees:

HB 52 HD1 SD1 requires compliance with the Military Selective Service Act to qualify for state financial assistance, which would include loans, grants, scholarships and tuition waivers or other financial assistance for post-secondary education that is provided by the state.

The intent of HB 52 HD1 SD1 is laudable; however, the University respectfully recommends that the current draft of the bill be revised as follows:

- Delete language on page 3, lines 6-8 subsection (b) which pertains to a section in HB 52 HD1 that has since been deleted.
- Delay the effective date from July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2018, in order to provide adequate planning and implementation time for the University.

All individuals who apply for federal financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are data matched through the Selective Service confirmation process and males are afforded the option to automatically register for Selective Service. This FAFSA information is downloaded to the University's student information system. Since not all high school graduates venture into higher education nor apply for federal financial aid, the yield to the US Military Selective Service may not be as high as anticipated. Perhaps, the yields would be greater if all age appropriate males would comply with the requirements *prior to graduating from high school*.

In gauging the practices across the country, the University was only able to confirm that the University of Texas System has a requirement for proof of Selective Service registration tied to receiving federal and state aid.

Should HB 52 HD1 SD1 pass, there will be major impacts on the workload of frontline operations, involving the altering of computerized and manual workflows to the University financial aid application processes. This will involve overtime and/or the need for additional human resources to comply. HB 52 HD1 SD1 has the potential of affecting

student enrollments negatively which will have a consequential impact on the quality of student life as well as the financial resources available on the University's campuses. Finally, the bill's applicability to continuing students (i.e. those already enrolled) will require ample planning, foresight, and anticipation to minimize disruption in their continued enrollment and persistence.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure. The University understands the intent of this bill, and is concerned about its impact on operations, workflow, and enrollment.