SB 2364 SD2, HD2 – RELATING TO ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Chair Takamine, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB2364 SD2 HD2, which would repeal optional, exclusionary insurance provision for injuries sustained by insured persons as a result of intoxication from alcohol or narcotics and appropriates funds to establish the Screening, Briefing, Intervention, Referral, and Treatment program in emergency rooms to the John A Burns School of Medicine.

The University of Hawai‘i respectfully recommends that such a program be housed in a different state agency, and not at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. We are not equipped to manage such a program and it is not within the core mission of the School. We hope that the committee will revise the bill to allow a different state agency to administer the program, as was the case in the original version of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.