



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health

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By

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SB 930 RELATING TO VOLUNTEER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Thank you Chair Ige, Vice Chair Green, and members of the Senate Committee on Health, for the opportunity to testify today.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports the intent of Senate Bill 930, which provides protections to healthcare workers volunteering emergency services that are consistent with Good Samaritan practices elsewhere, provided it does not adversely affect our UH priorities as set in our budget request, most notably in health and safety and repairs and maintenance issues. Addressing these urgent needs is critical to our ability to perform our core mission for the State of Hawai'i.

We recognize that you have many priorities and issues to weigh for the state, so the following substantive information on this program is provided to assist you in your decision-making process.

We believe SB 930 will protect those healthcare workers who come to the aid of their community in times of crises anywhere in Hawai'i.

SB 930 will also protect those healthcare workers who volunteer to help the Hawai'i State Department of Health with important vaccination efforts.

The bill also strikes a balance with patient's rights, in that it does not diminish the legal rights of those who were inadvertently harmed when assisted by such volunteers given there is willful or criminal misconduct, gross negligence or reckless misconduct.

We appreciate all interest in the University, and want to emphasize that we will be able to perform better in all arenas and best serve the state with support of the current campus priorities approved by the Board of Regents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.