



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing  
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by

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SB 2776 – RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of the intent of SB 2776—  
Relating to Economic Development.

My name is Linda Randall, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at University of Hawai'i  
- West O'ahu. I am testifying today on behalf of the University.

The University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu (UHWO) supports SB 2776. We would very  
much like to be a part of such an innovative opportunity to further the film production  
and creative media industries in Hawai'i. The creation of a Film and Media Park on  
UHWO land, in conjunction with our new Academy for Creative Media academic  
programming, will establish a strong connection between education and high-  
technology industry in Hawai'i.

UHWO has a Creative Media program and is partnering with the community colleges to  
build a program that taps into the strengths of each campus. The goal of UHWO's  
partnership is to provide a seamless gateway for these students to earn a  
baccalaureate degree.

A Film and Media Park in proximity to UHWO's campus would encourage highly  
talented high school students in programs like Searider productions to continue their  
education and pursue a bachelor's degree in creative media at UHWO.

The Film and Media Park could provide internship and practicum opportunities as a way  
to enhance students' education. This hub of activity and creativity would be a showcase  
of university student talent. Hands-on opportunities in a dedicated Film and Media Park  
near the UHWO will better prepare baccalaureate students for professional work in the  
industry. The collaborative nature of the Park will also draw attention to the innovative  
academic programs in our State's high schools and University system – a win-win  
situation for our State.

While we support this concept, UHWO is concerned about the exact location of the Film  
and Media Park, and the potential for the site to interface and provide opportunities for  
collaboration with the UHWO campus, and request to be a part of the decision making  
process for the siting of the Park.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support and concerns on this measure.