SB 2389 SD1 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2389 SD1. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2389 SD1 intended to promote accessibility to quality healthcare to the people of Hawai‘i at a reasonable cost.

The University of Hawai‘i stands on its previous testimony to the House Committee on Health on HB 2481 and strongly supports SB 2389 SD1. The CSS-SSRI strongly supports the efforts to increase healthcare pricing and cost transparency, and firmly believes in its importance to inform policymakers and consumers on healthcare costs, value, health status and its potential to improve healthcare in the State of Hawai‘i.

We strongly support the bill amendment that specifically names the CSS Social Sciences Research Institute (SSRI) Pacific Health Informatics and Data Center (PHIDC) as the host of the “University of Hawai‘i data center” described in SECTION 2.b.

The CSS-SSRI has significant capacity, expertise, and track record to serve as the State of Hawai‘i health data repository. CSS-SSRI will develop the Pacific Health Informatics and Data Center (PHIDC) to support this effort.

We thank the committee for allowing us to testify in strong support of SB 2389 SD1.