



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 2:45 p.m.

By
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University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu

HB 312 HD1 – RELATING TO CREATIVE MEDIA

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i is grateful for legislative support of our creative media program, however, we respectfully oppose HB 312 HD1, which requires the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu (UHWO) campus to establish and name the degree "Bachelor of Arts in Creative Media".

UHWO, adhering to the UH System, Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Policies and Planning "Guidelines for Proposals for New Programs", presented the Bachelor of Arts in Creative Media proposal to the UH Board of Regents Committee on Academic and Student Affairs on February 14, 2019, and the full Board of Regents on February 28, 2019. The Board approved the establishment of a provisional bachelor of arts in creative media at UHWO at its February 28, 2019, meeting, and UHWO has begun the process of seeking approval from the Western Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC). The earliest the degree will be reviewed by WSCUC is August, 2019. This degree will be awarded by a signature program and it fulfills the promise of a tight link between the campus, its regional service area, and workforce demand. Please note that the "name" of the degree may need to change over time depending upon the need and advancement of the professional field.

UHWO appreciates the continued support we have received from the Legislature, but respectfully oppose the statutory creation of a program or degree and request that it be deferred.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.