



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, March 28, 2019 at 10:15 a.m.

By
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University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu

HB 312 HD1 SD1 – RELATING TO CREATIVE MEDIA

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i is grateful for the continued legislative support of our creative media program, however, we respectfully oppose Sections 1 and 2 of HB 312 HD1 SD1 which statutorily requires the University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu (UHWO) campus to establish the Bachelor of Arts degree in Creative Media.

UHWO, adhering to the UH System Office of the Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy "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 this degree name may change over time reflecting the need and advancement of the professional field. Establishing such a statutorily created degree would require the University to return to the legislature if the name were to change in any form.

As for Section 3 of the bill, which appropriates an undetermined amount of funding to UHWO, we are appreciative of this support provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR approved budget.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.