



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Development & Business
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By

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on behalf of

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HB 645 – RELATING TO HAWAII FILM STUDIOS

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of this legislation to increase the amount of production and post production that takes place in the State of Hawai'i and particularly supports any incentive to increase the use of qualified production facilities in the islands.

It is UH's hope to work with the State of Hawai'i to build a full-service motion picture, television and digital content studio complex on the University of Hawai'i at West O'ahu campus, which would greatly enhance the ability of the industry to shoot not just beautiful scenery, but to build their interior sets and even do post production on their projects. This has the potential to more than double the current direct spend in production because almost every feature film such as *Jurassic Park*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, and *Jumanji*, have been forced to leave Hawai'i to complete production due to a lack of infrastructure. Hawai'i currently does not have any sufficient studio facility to house a major motion picture – resulting in a loss of business and jobs for the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.