

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM** 

Legislative Testimony

## Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment March 19, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. By Kalbert K. Young Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer University of Hawai'i System

SB 666 SD2 HD1- RELATING TO AN AIRPORTS CORPORATION

Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Eli, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 666 SD2 HD1 which among other things, authorizes the establishment of the Hawai'i Airports Corporation within the Department of Transportation for administrative purposes.

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports SB 666 SD2 HD1, and believes the establishment of such a corporation would allow for the airport to operate more effectively and efficiently and enable capital improvements projects to be completed in a more timely manner.

The quality and appearance of our local airports serve as a critical impression on arriving students and families. UH considers the airports and all State facilities as a showcase of Hawai'i. For many visitors arriving into the State, the first impression is experienced at the airport, and this includes UH's non-resident students along with their families and prospective and current faculty members.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.