



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Government Operations and
Labor, Culture and the Arts
Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

By
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And
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SCR 34 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO DETERMINE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES FOR THE REHABILITATION AND RENOVATION OF THE STATE CAPITOL REFLECTING POOL.

Chairs Thielen and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Inouye and Ihara, and members of the committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to present **comments** on SCR 34, requesting that the Department of Accounting and General Services conduct a study to determine various alternatives for the rehabilitation and renovation of the State Capitol Reflecting Pool.

As we all know, the Hawai'i State Capitol is a significant architectural monument, representing not only the work of important mid-twentieth-century architects but the will of the people of Hawai'i half a century ago. Last week's symposium marking the 50th anniversary of the building's completion is testimony to its significance in our lives. Unfortunately, the reflecting pool has never functioned properly. Intended to represent the ocean surrounding the Hawaiian Islands, it was always an integral part of the design. Its loss would detract from the visual character of the capitol and would severely alter the overall feel and quality of the exterior spaces. I strongly believe there is a technical solution to the problem and one that DAGS could properly supervise.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.