Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Government Operations
and Higher Education
March 21, 2019 at 2:45 p.m.
by
Kalbert K. Young

Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i System

SCR 44 / SR 31 – REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT AN AUDIT OF ALL UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TRAVEL FOR FISCAL YEARS 2014-2019

Chairs Thielen and Kim, Vice Chairs Inouye and Kidani, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i is **supportive** of this resolution and appreciates the opportunity to share our progress in managing our travel expenses in a reasonable and appropriate manner.

Travel expenses can be a significant portion of an agency's operating budget. The University has implemented enhanced policies at the Regent Policy level and administration level over the past years to modernize management over operational areas – including travel. For example, the University of Hawai'i leads any other State agencies in implementation of the University's online travel system (eTravel). I believe continued ongoing refinements to capabilities within the system and enhancements to processes, procedures, and policies have also resulted in improvements to areas of compliance and management.

I view audits to be beneficial to help evaluate and validate processes, and where necessary, audits can provide value in identifying areas for improvement or best practices.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.