SB 2861 – RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Ihara, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai‘i supports SB 2861, Relating to Public Employment Cost Items. This bill provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for members of Unit (7) and their excluded counterparts, for fiscal biennium 2019-2021.

Although a master collective bargaining agreement is effective until June 30, 2021, government employers in the State are in negotiations with bargaining unit (7) pursuant to a “reopener” clause in that agreement. Once negotiations and the collective bargaining process have concluded, this bill may be necessary if additional funding is required.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.