

Statement of

Sam Callejo
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before the

**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
AND
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

January 29, 2004

State Capitol, Conference Room 329, 9:00 a.m.

in consideration of

HB 1707

RELATING TO THE HAWAII MEDICAL EDUCATION SPECIAL FUND

Chairs Arakaki and Oshiro, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Nakasone and members of the House Committee on Health and Committee on Labor and Public Employment.

The University of Hawaii (UH) supports HB 1707, which amends §304-121, Hawaii Revised Statutes, by deleting the requirement to establish the Hawaii Medical Education Special Fund in the State Treasury and clarifying that this fund shall be administered by the University, rather than the Medical Education Council. Currently, none of the University's special funds are established in the State Treasury or administered independently. Therefore, this measure will allow the Hawaii Medical Education Special Fund to be established and administered in a manner that is consistent with other University Special Funds.

Per Act 181 of 2003, the Hawaii Medical Education Council (MEC) has been created with 13 members from both the public and private sectors. Towards the end of 2003, the governor appointed eight members to the council—three persons with each one representing a different hospital at which accredited graduate medical education programs are conducted, three persons representing the health professions, one person representing the federal health care sector, and one person from the general public—who will be confirmed by the Legislature at this session. The other five statutory members of the council are the dean of the school of medicine who serves as chair, the UH dean of the school of nursing and dental hygiene, the UH vice dean for academic affairs at the school of medicine, the director of health or the director's designated representative, and the director of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii. This quasi-government council shall address workforce planning of the medical and health care professions as well as develop a plan to secure optimal funding for graduate medical education.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.