UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

TESTIMONY

HB 2547 HD1 Relating to the University of Hawaii

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance

February 26, 2004

By

Sam Callejo
Chief of Staff
University of Hawaii

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Chair Takamine and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this bill is to facilitate the auditor's access to information from the University of Hawaii Foundation with due regard for the privacy concerns of donors.

The University of Hawaii is concerned that the privacy provisions in the bill do not adequately protect the privacy rights of our donors. Respecting the privacy of those who have donated to University of Hawaii is very important to us. We look to the University of Hawaii Foundation on the potential effect on fundraising this proposal might have.

We have just revised the University of Hawaii's agreement with the University of Hawaii Foundation and will be taking it to the Board of Regents in March for approval. With the intent of improving accountability and reporting standards, and with the input of our internal auditor and the general consul's office, we have thoroughly reviewed the terms of our existing memorandum of understanding

and service agreement along with the report by the Legislative Auditor. The revised agreement will provide the checks and balances needed to assure the proper reporting an outlined by the legislative auditor. We appreciate the concerns of the legislature and we have worked to improve the accountability requirements in our agreement. The University of Hawaii is looking forward to a successful fundraising campaign that will make the University more self reliant and enhance its programs.

For these reasons the University of Hawaii believes that this bill is not necessary at this time and respectfully asks that this measure be held. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.