



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

HB 1, HD2, Relating to Higher Education

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education and
Senate Committee on the Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

March 22, 2005

by

David McClain
Interim President
University of Hawai'i

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Chairs Hee and Hanabusa and Members of the Committees:

The purpose of HB 1, HD 2 is to improve the organizational framework of statutes relating to the higher education and the University of Hawai'i. The University supports HB 1, HD2.

In response to the provisions of Act 226, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2004, a higher education statutory analysis interim study group was established by Senate President Bunda and Speaker Say. The charge to this study group was to review and make recommendations for consolidating, amending, or repealing statutes relating to higher education and the University of Hawai'i.

Senator Sakamoto and Representative Takai chaired the study group and provided leadership and facilitated the study group's timely completion of their task. Members of the study group included the following representatives of the University of Hawai'i: Patricia Lee, Chair, Board of Regents; David McClain, Interim President; Walter Kirimitsu, Vice President and General Counsel; Floyd McCoy, Co-Chair All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs; Robert Bley-Vroman, Faculty Senate of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa; Kristopher Kaupalolo, University of Hawai'i Student Caucus and Graduate Student Organization; and Andrew Ogata, University of Hawai'i Student Caucus.

In addition to the University's representatives to the study group, the University organized its own system-wide work group of program administrators and subject matter experts. The University's system-wide work group provided expert feedback to the University's representatives on the study group. There is general agreement among the members of the University's work-group that HB 1, HD 2 improves the organizational framework of statutes relating to higher education and the University and updates and clarifies statutory provisions while providing consistency and clarity for those provisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.