



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

## TESTIMONY

HCR 38 URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO FULLY FUND  
ALL OF ITS NURSING PROGRAMS

Testimony Presented Before the House  
Committee on Higher Education and  
Committee on Health

March 29, 2005

by

Lois Magnussen, EdD, APRN  
Interim Dean and Associate Professor  
School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene

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**HCR 38 Urging the University of Hawaii to Fully Fund All of Its Nursing Programs**

Chair Tommy Waters, Chair Dennis Arakaki, and Members of their Committees:

The purpose of this house concurrent resolution is to highlight the importance of addressing the nursing shortage in the State of Hawaii by recommending that the University of Hawaii fully fund all of its nursing programs. This resolution is developed in the light of the knowledge that, across the State, the University of Hawaii nursing programs are turning away many qualified applicants. These applicants, if given the opportunity to matriculate in State nursing programs would become graduate nurses, qualified to fill vacant positions in hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, clinics and other health care settings.

The University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene supports this resolution. As noted in the resolution, Hawaii's registered nurse workforce is aging. By the year 2010 it is anticipated that the current nursing shortage will have extended beyond the capabilities of state nursing programs to address with current numbers of faculty. However, it should be acknowledged that, in recognition of the statewide nursing shortage, the Board of Regents included in its Biennium Budget requests funds for undergraduate and graduate nursing education programs.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.