



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

HB 3029 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

February 16, 2006

By

Dr. Linda Johnsrud
Interim VP for Academic Planning and Policy
University of Hawaii

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Chair Ito, Vice Chair Chong and Members of the Committee:

The University appreciates and supports the intent of HB 3029. We recognize the significance of the contribution made by these members of our community and the importance of their service to the safety of our citizens.

The University currently affords all active duty military personnel and their dependents the privilege of paying resident tuition. While we support the intent of HB 3029, it is unclear how much such a waiver or further reduction in tuition would cost and how it could be accommodated. The University of Hawai'i, therefore, respectfully requests legislative appropriation of the required funds, as long as these funds do not adversely affect the University's supplemental budget priorities.

We also respectfully suggest that, if passed, HB 3029 be amended to ensure that members of the military entitled to federal support for their education exhaust those benefits prior to seeking UH tuition waivers or reductions of tuition.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns on HB 3029. We thank the legislators for your interest in higher education for all citizens and support of our students.