



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

## TESTIMONY

HB 3179  
RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE HAWAI'I COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education

February 4, 2006

by

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Director of Capital Improvements

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**HB 3179 RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR THE  
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Chair Waters, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i strongly supports the intent of HB 3179. The purpose of this bill is to make capital improvements program (CIP) appropriations for Hawai'i Community College.

Section 1 of HB 3179, Items A to K includes eleven repairs and maintenance projects, all from Hawai'i Community College's Unfunded Deferred Maintenance Report dated January 2005. We strongly support increases to our repairs and maintenance budget. As a note, HB 1900, the Executive Supplemental Budget, includes a Systemwide CIP appropriation for the University of Hawai'i for Capital Renewal and Deferred Maintenance. HB 1900 currently includes \$43 million in general obligation bonds, and the University welcomes any additional funding for this important project that will benefit all campuses of the University of Hawai'i.

The University supports the intent of the last paragraph of Section 1 of HB 3179 (Page 4, lines 7 through 12), as it pertains to energy efficiency and sustainable design as established by the United States Green Building Council. However, we are concerned with establishing a minimum rating level (i.e. silver) for new construction or major renovation work, as this will have a major impact on the total cost of developing/renovating a facility. We are currently unaware of any public facility in Hawai'i that meets the silver standard which is stipulated in Section 1; therefore, we recommend omitting the section, or amending it to read as follows:

The University shall implement sustainable design technology in new construction and major renovation projects to the extent possible and feasible within the total project appropriation.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments on HB 3179.