



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education

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by

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University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 586, Making an Appropriation to the University of Hawai'i

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Bertram, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Ostrander and I currently serve as the Interim Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I wish to express my support for the intent of HB 586, Making an Appropriation to the University of Hawai'i for distance training in public health.

I am pleased to offer my support for the intent of this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as expressed in our Board of Regents-approved Executive Biennium Budget.

We appreciate the fact that this measure would provide much-needed resources for a critical public health program. However, we must emphasize that there are other needs contained in our UH budget request that deserve consideration as well – and have been affirmed through the review process of our University administrators, Board of Regents, and Governor.

The funds requested in the Biennium Budget are crucial to JABSOM's fulfillment of its mission to train physicians to serve Hawai'i and conduct research to improve the lives of our people. We cannot responsibly advocate proposals that would diminish the amount of resources needed to operate our School and execute its mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.