Testimony Presented Before the

House Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs

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by

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H.B. 1345 – Making an Emergency Appropriation for Natural Disasters

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Har, and the Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawaii wishes to express its support for H.B. 1345 which seeks an emergency appropriation to cover the cost of repairs resulting from the Kiholo Bay earthquake on October 15, 2006.

The University suffered damages from the October 15, 2006 earthquake at its Oahu, Maui and Hawaii island campuses. It is anticipated that funds appropriated by this bill will provide financial assistance to the University for earthquake repairs. In addition, the University is seeking federal funding for repairs through the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Emergency Assistance Act. The Stafford Act imposes upon the recipients, a twenty five percent cost share of the Federal Emergency Management's Public Assistance program. The funds from this appropriation would cover the twenty five percent cost share and maintain the University's eligibility for federal funding.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify regarding H.B. 1345.