



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education

January 29, 2007

by

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HB 1529 – RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Chang, Vice-Chair Bertram and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of HB 1529 is to create the Senator Hiram L. Fong scholarship program and the Senator Oren E. Long scholarship program at the University of Hawai'i Foundation, to be administered by the University of Hawai'i. The program is to provide financial support for students enrolled at any campus of the University of Hawai'i. The amount to be awarded to a student shall be determined by the Board of Regents. The Bill provides that \$250,000 for fiscal year 2007-2008 is to be appropriated from the general revenues of the State and deposited as an endowment into the Senator Hiram L. Fong scholarship program at the UH Foundation. It also provides that \$250,000 for fiscal year 2007-2008 is to be appropriated from the general revenues of the State and deposited as an endowment into the Senator Oren E. Long scholarship program at the UH Foundation.

The University of Hawai'i Foundation is unable to accept general fund appropriations from the state of Hawai'i. Therefore, we respectfully request that the funds be deposited into the UH Student Scholarship and Assistance Special Fund instead. The University will be able to administer the Senator Hiram L. Fong and Senator Oren E. Long scholarships from this special fund account.

Furthermore, the University is unclear as to the Legislative intent to appropriate \$200,000 from the general revenues of the University of Hawai'i scholarship and assistance special fund to be used for the Senator Hiram L. Fong scholarship program. Currently, the only general revenues in this fund come from the State of Hawai'i to support the State of Hawai'i B Plus Scholarship Program.

The University supports the intent of this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents approved Biennium Budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.