



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education

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by

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HCR 144 — REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM TO IMPLEMENT  
A SYSTEM WIDE SENIOR CITIZEN VISITOR PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZEN  
STUDENTS

Chair Chang and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of HCR 144 is to request the University of Hawai'i system to implement a system-wide senior citizen visitor program for senior citizen students. The University of Hawai'i recognizes the benefit that such a program offers for senior citizens, and we regret that the State of Hawai'i chose to terminate its support.

It is the case that there is an informal program at UH Mānoa with 250 seniors enrolled in classes with the instructor's consent. However, there are a number of issues that would have to be dealt with prior to implementing a system-wide program, including definition of "senior," potential growth in the age group, determining "course" capacity, access to student support services (library, computing services, weight room, etc.), liability, impact of increased number of users on site licenses, and issues of fairness and age discrimination.

We respectfully request that this resolution be amended to request the University to study the feasibility of a system-wide senior citizen program and to determine the resources required to administer and support the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

