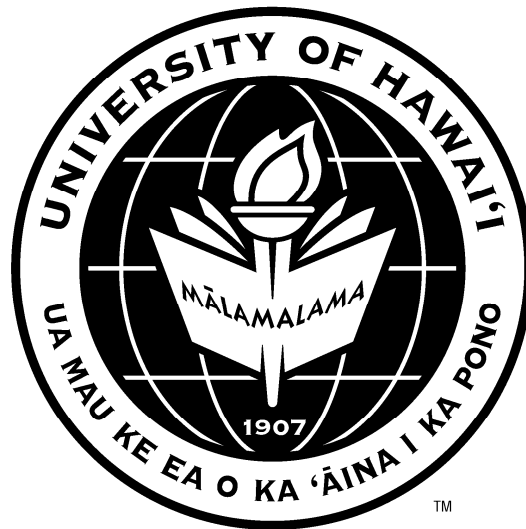


UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I SYSTEM LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



HB 2112 – RELATING TO THE TASK FORCE ON AGING

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Health and Committee on Human Services & Housing

January 23, 2008 at 9:00am

by

Dr. Gary K. Ostrander
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education &
Interim Dean for the John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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Chair Green, Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports the intent of this measure so long as it does not adversely impact the priorities set by the University in our Board of Regents approved budget request. The University has many needs, most notably repairs and maintenance, maintaining our library collections, and safety and emergency preparedness. Addressing these urgent needs is critical to our ability to perform the functions the state needs us to perform – including the study of aging.

However, we do believe that the objective of developing a Center on Aging is worthwhile. In fact, Chancellor Hinshaw recently charged me with the development of such a center under the auspices of my office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education. This is because our efforts on aging are truly cross-campus and interdisciplinary in nature. We have begun planning a multidisciplinary approach to what we believe will be a critically important facility for the state of Hawai'i.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.