



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
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by

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HB 3072, HD2 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the House Committee on Finance:

I am Linda K. Johnsrud, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy, University of Hawai'i System, and I am testifying on behalf of the University on House Bill 3072 House Draft 2 that renames the Hawai'i State Postsecondary Education Commission, adds members, places it within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for administrative purposes, and expands its mission.

The University supports the intent of HB3072 HD2 but would like to express a concern about the potential for redundancy or duplication in duties between the UH System and DBEDT. Section 4(d) of HB3072 HD2 expands the scope of the Commission's responsibilities to include review and recommendations to increase the rate of students pursuing post-secondary education. The University, as one of its Strategic Outcomes for 2008-2015 (in draft), states as one of its goals a 3% annual increase in the college going rate of Hawai'i's private and public high school graduates to the UH system. Our ten campuses will plan performance measures linked to their campus mission, programs, and resources to support alignment toward this system-wide goal. We would recommend a thoughtful delineation of DBEDT's roles and responsibilities concerning the going rate of students to avoid overlap in this area.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.