



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

LATE
Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
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by
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HR 101 / HCR 119 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO BEGIN REBUILDING THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH BY 2012

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HR 101 / HCR 119. My commitment and that of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa toward eventual reemerging for the School of Public Health has not wavered.

At the time of my arrival at UH three years ago I stated publicly and privately that we would attempt to re-emerge the school of Public Health in 5-7 years. I further pointed out that we needed to initially focus on the fiscal stability of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and the emergence of the Cancer Center project. In late 2005 we submitted and received from the National Institutes of Health – Centers for Disease Control (NIH-CDC) a planning grant for reopening the University of Hawai'i Asia-Pacific School of Public Health. These funds (nearly 100K) have allowed us to make significant strides in developing a vision for reemergence that meets the needs of our stakeholders as well as develop a business plan to insure financial stability.

As such, your projected time line of 2012 to begin rebuilding is most reasonable and I would respectfully suggest that this effort is already underway. To their credit, the Department of Public Health Sciences also continues to make significant strides toward that goal.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need additional information.