Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
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by

Dr. Gary K. Ostrander
Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

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 Heath Sciences also continues to make significant strides toward
that goal.

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