

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM** 

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Higher Education February 3, 2009 at 2:00pm by James R. Gaines Vice President for Research, University of Hawai'i

HB 1617 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT HILO

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Nakashima, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education. Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 1617 that establishes in statute the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

We thank the legislature for this intent to support the growth of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. The University of Hawai'i supports this proposal in principle at some future date after appropriate review, recognizing that UH Hilo's growing research activity will require more coordination and leadership.

Creating additional executive personnel at UH requires appropriate review by the Board of Regents within the context of a review of UH Hilo's mission and its role within the UH system. We would also note that an amendment to statute is not required to establish this office or position.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.