Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
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by
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HB 2053 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM PROJECT ASSESSMENT SPECIAL FUND

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure. This bill establishes a University of Hawai'i capital improvements program (CIP) project assessment special fund for the purpose of defraying the cost of carrying out CIP projects managed by the University of Hawai'i, including the development of new facilities, repair and maintenance, and major renovation projects.

Currently, operating general funds are used to: (1) defray certain costs of CIP projects and (2) provide centralized management, oversight, and administration in the implementation of CIP projects. The costs related to these projects should be assessed and amortized against each individual project. The State Department of Accounting and General Services has a similar project assessment fund for the same purposes.

The specific costs relating to individual CIP projects will be paid using funding from appropriated CIP projects, including projects financed from the general obligation bond fund, revenue bonds, and special funds. The assessment to the projects will be fairly and proportionately assessed to defray the costs of providing centralized management, oversight, and administration of the implementation of CIP projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.