



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health and
Senate Committee on Higher Education
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by

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HB 2056 HD 1 RELATING TO PHARMACIST LICENSURE

Chairs Ige and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Green and Sakamoto and Members of the Committees:

On behalf of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UHH) College of Pharmacy, thank you for the opportunity to support HB 2056 HD 1 with amendments. The education of future pharmacists and community leaders who will improve healthcare in Hawai'i and throughout the Pacific Basin is a key mission of the College of Pharmacy. Beginning in May 2010, passage of this bill will enable fourth year student pharmacists who perform advanced pharmacy practice experience rotations in a United States territory or the District of Columbia to have those hours of practical experience count toward meeting the 1500 hours required for licensure as a pharmacist.

The UHH College of Pharmacy prefers the language in SB 2390 SD2, passed by your Committees last month and respectfully requests adoption of that version. These technical changes improve the clarity and accuracy of the bill with no substantive affect.

Passage of HB 2056 HD 1 with the recommended amendments will encourage student pharmacists from the United States territories in the Pacific Basin such as American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Marianas Islands to enroll at UHH and the College of Pharmacy. This measure will provide opportunities for students to return for advanced pharmacy practice experience rotations and improve the level of healthcare in their home territories. Finally, this will expand the number of diverse practical experience rotations that the College of Pharmacy can offer to all its 85–90 fourth year student pharmacists.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.