



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony presented before the
House Committee on Finance
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By Linda K. Johnsrud

Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy, University of Hawai'i

HB 2076 HD1: RELATING TO RESEARCH

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the House Committee on Finance:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 2076 House Draft 1 that requires the sharing of data across state agencies to support research that improves education and workforce outcomes and meets the longitudinal data requirements of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

The University of Hawai'i supports HB2076 HD1. As a partner of Hawai'i P-20, the University of Hawai'i has been a supporter of longitudinal data system development since its inception. As part of this process and in response to ARRA requirements, in October 2009 UH President MRC Greenwood signed a Memorandum of Understanding that was also signed by the Superintendent of the Hawai'i Department of Education and the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. The purpose of the MOU was to establish a partnership to enable the sharing of data. The partners agreed to establish a data governance and access committee to determine protocols around research that would inform educational and workforce outcomes and policies.

HB2076 HD1 establishes in statute many of the terms of the MOU, and reinforces the requirement to share data between agencies in a manner that safeguards confidentiality and strengthens the ability to conduct research that informs improvements for education and workforce outcomes in Hawai'i. As such it advances the state's ability to use data to evaluate programs and inform decision making, and supports the state's efforts to meet one of the four assurances for ARRA funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.