



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
March 11, 2010 at 1:15 p.m.
by
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HB 2670 HD 1 – Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Sakamoto, and Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education:

The University of Hawai'i System supports HB 2670 HD1. This measure increases the cap on the amount of expenditures to \$5M that the UH Board of Regents can authorize from the University of Hawai'i Tuition and Fees Special Fund for deposit into the University of Hawai'i Foundation for the purposes of promoting alumni relations and generating private donations.

The collaboration between the University of Hawai'i System and the University of Hawai'i Foundation has a direct impact on the university's service to the state. It strengthens and improves student access to higher education; supports research projects whose findings which may result in critical healthcare, environmental and other key breakthroughs; and enhances programs throughout our 10 campuses for our community.

The University of Hawai'i Centennial Campaign, led by the University of Hawai'i Foundation, was launched to celebrate 100 years of public higher education, raised a grand total to \$336 million. This campaign officially ended on June 30, 2009 and concluded the most ambitious fundraising campaign to date in the state of Hawai'i, providing valuable support for UH students, faculty, and programs.

During these difficult economic times, fundraising is more important than ever for UH. Our ability to mount a new campaign and to increase our efforts in generating private support is vital to the future health of the university.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.