



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented to the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
March 24, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
by
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HB 2670 HD1 SD1 – Relating to the University of Hawaii

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The University of Hawaii System supports HB 2670 HD1 SD1. This measure increases the cap on the amount of expenditures to \$5M that the UH Board of Regents can authorize from the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund for deposit into the University of Hawaii Foundation for the purposes of promoting alumni relations and generating private donations.

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

During these difficult economic times, fundraising is more important than ever for UH and the students we serve. 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.

We support this measure because it affords the University flexibility in the amount we are authorized to invest in the next campaign. However, we want to assure the Committee that a decision on the amount to be expended has not been made. The University system is not in a position at this time to determine the level of funding that will be needed or appropriate for the next campaign.

Thank you for your support of the University and the opportunity to comment on this bill.