



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance

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by

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HB 2775 HD1 – Relating to Agriculture

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

HB 2775 HD1 establishes fees for the processing of permits and other requests for the importation or possession of incoming plants, animals, and microorganisms into the State. The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of the bill and understands the department's need for additional revenue. UH is willing to pay a reasonable fee only if it leads to faster processing and issuance of importation permits.

The UH believes that increasing revenue is only one way to address budget shortfalls while maintaining an acceptable level of service. The University urges the Department of Agriculture to explore updating administrative rules and increasing the efficiency of the permitting process in order to reduce costs and improve service to the user community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.