



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony presented before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2011 at 2:30 p.m.

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HB 1329: RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Nakashima and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on House Bill 1329 that directs the Legislative Reference Bureau to examine the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and regulations pursuant to that Act, to determine in consultation with the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Education what changes are required for the state to comply with various provisions of the federal law.

The University supports the direction of this bill and its proposal to request from the Legislative Reference Bureau a review of the state's options for compliance with the federal Higher Education Act.

Respectfully, we offer two observations regarding the language of HB 1329:

- 1) Page 4 (line 22) and page 5 (lines 1-2) states: "federal laws and regulations relating to the authorization of institutions to operate educational programs beyond secondary education"
 - a. For clarification, we would like to note that the new federal regulations regarding state authorization apply to private, not public higher education institutions. The University of Hawai'i campuses would be exempt.
- 2) Page 6 (line 14): "veterans affairs" should be deleted, and replaced with, "State Approving Agency for veterans benefits" and "the administrations of the Federal Leveraging Educational Assistance Program (LEAP)."

We appreciate the chance to provide testimony and comment on HB 1329.