



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education

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by

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HB1457 HD1 PROPOSED SD1 – RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the University of Hawai'i and its 10 campuses.

HB1457 HD1 PROPOSED SD1 extends eligibility for state financial aid and resident tuition to students of the University of Hawai'i without lawful immigration status who meet certain specified criteria.

The University supports the intent of this bill that is aligned with proposed Federal legislation known as the "Dream Act". The University is committed to providing access to a college education for all those who call Hawai'i home and want to improve themselves and their community.

The University is ready to develop policies and procedures to improve college access for the undocumented immigrant; consistent with Federal law, and would ask that any legislation in this area provide sufficient flexibility to enable such policies and procedures to be crafted to avoid potential conflicts between State and Federal laws, regulations, and policies.

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