Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment Tuesday, January 29, 2013 9:00 a.m.

By

Dr. Linda K. Johnsrud Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost University of Hawai'i

HB 151 RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Hashem and Members of House Committee on Labor and Public Employment, I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the University of Hawai'i regarding House Bill 151 – Relating to Collective Bargaining which proposes to amend HRS, §89-5, subsection (i), to place a statutory requirement that the Hawai'i Labor Relations Board (HLRB) provide a decision or resolve a complaint within 90 days.

The University of Hawai'i **supports** the intent of the proposed legislation.

The University of Hawai'i, as well as other State departments, have a number of pending complaints and cases before the HLRB. Many of these complaints and cases have already been heard by the HLRB and are pending a decision by the Board, in some cases, over a year or more. Since these pending decisions have not been issued, we have not been able to obtain clarification or resolution to these complaints and cases and are unable to resolve the dispute with all parties involved. In some cases, the University has not been able to proceed with operational movements, changes, program implementation, and other types of administrative decisions since the matter is in dispute before the HLRB. Having decisions rendered by the HLRB in a more timely fashion after the complaint or case is filed and heard will provide our University and campuses with the direction and clarification required to properly move forward with these complaints and cases.

We believe that it is in the best interests of all parties to seek a resolution or decision to any dispute in a timely fashion. Placing a new statutory provision under HRS, §89-5, subsection (i), is a way to accomplish this endeavor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.