



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
and the  
House Committee on Education  
January 31, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.  
by  
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HB327 RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chairs Choy and Takumi, Vice Chairs Ichiyama and Ohno and Members of the Committees:

We support the intent of HB327 which would establish a three-year pilot project that 1) implements a comprehensive, empirically-based assessment program for certain students in grades seven, eight, and nine and 2) undertakes a study of existing programs used in the public school system to enhance educational delivery to determine their effectiveness.

One of the University of Hawai'i system strategic outcomes and performance measures is to improve Hawai'i's educational capital by increasing the going rates of public and private high schools to UH system campuses. Meanwhile, one of the goals of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo strategic plan is to strengthen UH Hilo's impact on the community, island and state of Hawai'i through responsive higher education, community partnerships and knowledge and technology transfer. The UH Hilo College of Continuing Education and Community Service is already engaged with a partners in the community and within the field of education on issues relating to outreach and college preparedness as a way of assisting students in their transition to post-secondary education.

This bill would enable the UH Hilo College of Continuing Education and Community Service to partner with our College of Arts and Sciences, which includes the School of Education, to plan and implement the three-year pilot project in collaboration with and feedback from the Department of Education.

To this end, we support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Regents approved budget.

Thank you for providing this opportunity to testify on HB327. Mahalo.