

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM** 

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Before the House Committee on Finance February 27, 2013 at 2:00pm by Lui K. Hokoana, Ed.D Associate Vice President of Student Affairs University of Hawai'i System

HB 1380 HD1 — RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 1380 HD1 which provides funds to implement a scholarship program to support students from any UH campus who are Hawai'i residents to participate in The Washington Center Internship and Seminar programs in Washington DC and other internship programs. The Washington Center is "an independent, nonprofit organization serving hundreds of colleges and universities in the United States and other countries. The largest program of its kind, The Washington Center has 70 fulltime staff and more than 50,000 alumni."

Funds would be used for fees, travel, housing and other educational expenses for UH students. UH shall be responsible for the implementation of the program. Providing financial support for UH students to participate in The Washington Center's academic and internship programs and other internship programs will increase educational and civic opportunities for Hawai'i residents to work and learn.

The University supports HB 1380 HD1 provided it does not adversely affect our UH priorities as set in our budget request.