



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
March 14, 2013 at 2:00pm

by
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HCR 39/HR 21 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS TO STUDY THE REINTEGRATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA WITH THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM.

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i has concerns with HCR 39/HR 21, which asks for a study on the reintegration of the Office of the Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with the Office of the President of the University of Hawai'i System.

As HCR 39/HR 21 correctly notes, the Board of Regents is responsible for the internal structure, management, and operation of the University. The Board of Regents, through its Advisory Task Group, is currently engaged in a detailed review and assessment of the Board and the University System. The Board of Regents also considered the roles of the President and UH Mānoa Chancellor during the recruitment and hiring of the current Chancellor. Action by the Legislature in this area is not needed. Moreover, while the proposed Resolutions appropriately recognize the role of the Board of Regents, the University is concerned that such action could be viewed as contributing to an environment that has caused concerns to be expressed by the University's accrediting body, the Western Association of Schools & Colleges, in its recent action letter to UH.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on these resolutions.