Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
and the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, April 19, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.
by
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Hawaii at Hilo

HCR48 REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF FORMING A UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Chairs Taniguchi and Ige, Vice Chairs Kahele and Kidani and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo supports the intent of HCR48 to establish a task force to examine the feasibility of forming a UH Hilo Men's Volleyball Team. Our Office of Intercollegiate Athletics provides sound educational and athletic opportunities for the students of Hawai'i and beyond. As a campus, we are uniquely positioned to offer additional opportunities for students and their families to participate in collegiate athletics. Men's volleyball has strong sport offerings for high school students in the State of Hawai'i. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo already has a strong NCAA Division II women's volleyball program, in a competitive 14-member conference. The addition of men's volleyball would not only provide educational and athletic opportunities for young men in the state, but also enhance and grow our relationship with the community.

This program offers significant educational opportunities for students and would significantly strengthen our ties with our community and our state. Additional funding resources would be necessary to develop a high quality men's volleyball program.

We support the intent of HCR48. Aloha.