

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance April 2, 2014 at 3:30 pm by Joanne Itano Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Hawai'i

HCR 235/HR 185 – REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII EXPAND THE OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE CAMPUSES WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM.

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

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the interest in the well-being of our kupuna shown in HCR 235 and HR 185. As observed in these resolutions, staying active is a way to ease mental and physical decline, and beneficial for the rising numbers of older adults in our state and in the nation.

The University, however, respectfully points out that we are not in a position to expand the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute system wide. The funding for the Institute was received from The Bernard Osher Foundation through a competitive endowment award based on demonstrated program success and evidence of sustainability specifically for the Institute at UH Mānoa.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.