



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
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By
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University of Hawai'i

HB 2195 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 2195. The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC) strongly supports House Bill 2195. This measure would repeal the requirement that the University of Hawai'i prepare an annual report on the development of the Construction Academy program.

The Construction Academy began in 2004 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The grant funded a pilot program between the UHCCs and select O'ahu high schools to prepare students with the skills needed to pursue careers in the construction industry. In 2006, the Hawai'i State Legislature appropriated funds to institutionalize and expand the program to other high schools throughout the State. The program has long since established itself as an integral part of the pathway for construction-related education.