Testimony Presented Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

March 13, 2006

By

Gary Ostrander, Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 2364 SD2 RELATING TO ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Chair Arakaki, Vice Chair Green, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB2364 SD2, which would repeal optional, exclusionary insurance provision for injuries sustained by insured persons as a result of intoxication from alcohol or narcotics and appropriates funds to establish the Screening, Briefing, Intervention, Referral, and Treatment program in emergency rooms to the John A Burns School of Medicine.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB2364 SD2, however, we respectfully recommend that such a program be housed in a different state agency, and not at the John A. Burns School of Medicine. We are not equipped to manage such a program and it is not within the core mission of the School.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.