



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

Senate Bill No. 3120, Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Testimony Presented Before the
Committee on Higher Education

February 14, 2006

by

Linda Johnsrud
Interim Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy
University of Hawai'i

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SB 3120 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of Senate Bill 3120 is to increase the amount of general fund appropriations previously appropriated for the State of Hawai'i B Plus Scholarship program. The University of Hawai'i deeply appreciates the Legislature's efforts on behalf of student access to higher education and this increase in need-based aid for Hawai'i residents.

We respectfully suggest a further clarification in the criteria for eligibility. The bill proposes that an individual who qualifies for this scholarship "is considered low income according to federal financial aid guidelines." We suggest that this language be replaced with the following: "is eligible for need-based financial aid based on federal financial aid guidelines." This language simplifies the implementation of the scholarship for financial aid officers.

The University supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Board of Regent approved Executive Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.