Testimony Presented Before the HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 3, 2006

by

Neal Smatresk, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 3192 SD1, HD1 – Relating to Sister State and Province Relationships

Chair Takamine, Vice Chair Kawakami, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 3192 SD1, HD1 which would establish a Hawai'i sister state committee to recommend sister state or province relationships for the legislature's action. The University is supportive of strengthening our ties within the region and the world.

We support SB 3192 SD1, HD1 provided that there is understanding that its passage does not necessarily involve the establishment of exchange partnerships between the University of Hawai'i and universities in sister states. The University needs to retain the control and ability to establish our own agreements with foreign Universities that meet our strategic and academic needs.