



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education

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by

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SB 692, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee:

My name is Gary Ostrander and I currently serve as the Interim Dean of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

I wish to express my support for the intent of SB 692, appropriating funds to JABSOM's Department of Public Health for distance training, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as expressed in our Board of Regents-approved Executive Biennial Budget.

We appreciate the fact that this measure would provide much-needed resources for a critical public health program. However, we must emphasize that there are other needs contained in our UH budget request that deserve consideration as well – and have been affirmed through the review process of our University administrators, Board of Regents, and Governor.

The funds requested in the Biennial Budget are crucial to JABSOM's fulfillment of its mission to train physicians to serve Hawaii and conduct research to improve the lives of our people. We cannot responsibly advocate proposals that would diminish the amount of resources needed to operate our School and execute its mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.