



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Health

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By

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SB 1970: RELATING TO SMOKING

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i strongly opposes Senate Bill 1970. The bill would amend the Hawai'i Smoke Free Law enacted by the 2006 Legislature, allowing again smoking in bars, nightclubs, and restaurants. The University of Hawai'i is opposed to SB 1970 for the following important health reasons:

- Employees, owners, and patrons would again be subjected to the negative health consequences of second hand smoking.
- SB 1970 would eliminate some of the restrictions of the Hawai'i Smoke-Free Law bill with the negative consequence of increased cigarette consumption and the ensuing negative consequences for health and productivity of smokers.
- SB 1970 would have a negative impact on the State's economy as many non-smokers, representing the vast majority of our citizens, would no longer be enticed to visit establishments that have become smoke-free.

Hawai'i's smoke-free law is fully consistent with the University of Hawai'i's smoke-free campus policy enacted several years prior to Hawai'i's smoke-free law.