



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the

House Committee on Higher Education

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by

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SCR 79— REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO REPORT ON THE LINKING OF FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUAL CAMPUSES WITH PERFORMANCE GOALS

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Bertram, members of the Committee,

The purpose of Senate Concurrent Resolution 79 is to request the University of Hawai'i to report on the linking of funding for individual campuses with performance goals. Each biennium the University of Hawai'i produces a report to document our progress in meeting our goals in service to the state of Hawai'i. The 2006 edition of *Measuring Our Progress* was provided to the legislature in January. This document provides measures of performance, benchmarks, and other indicators of our progress in meeting the goals we set forth in the UH Strategic Plan.

This year we also produced a set of measures that are aligned with the needs identified for the state of Hawai'i. Based on an analysis of demographic trends and projections by region of the state, the *UH Second Decade Project* identifies Hawai'i's needs for postsecondary education and training in the second decade of the millenium. We identified four priorities for the state:

- Increase the educational capital of the state
- Expand workforce development initiatives
- Assist in expanding and diversifying the economy
- Address underserved regions and populations of the state, particularly Native Hawaiians

The University of Hawai'i system of ten campuses has made a commitment to advancing this agenda and grounded its biennium budget request to the Legislature in efforts to meet these state needs. Measures that can be used to assess our progress are outlined in the attached document.

We note that SCR 79 asks us to report prior to the 2008 legislative session. We can at that time report on the link between our goals and funding during this biennium from the perspective of each campus. However, it would be more effective if we work together with the Legislature in the future to identify performance goals that can be most appropriately tied to funding and to ensure that the goals we are measuring are the goals of interest to the Legislature.

We look forward to discussing these measures with members of the legislature and setting goals in these areas, but significant progress on many of these measures will take time because they will be the long-term result of actions initiated today. Setting realistic goals beyond a biennium requires sustained funding going forward. We are prepared to enter into a joint commitment with the Legislature to meet the needs of the State for public higher education.