

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Health March 24, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.

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SCR 94 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO BEGIN REBUILDING THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH BY 2012

Chair Sakamoto, Chair Ige, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 94. While we continue to focus efforts on the fiscal stability of the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) and the emergence of the Cancer Center project, the commitment of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa toward eventual reemerging for the School of Public Health has not wavered.

In late 2005 we submitted and received from the National Institutes of Health – Centers for Disease Control (NIH-CDC) a planning grant for reopening the University of Hawai'i Asia-Pacific School of Public Health. These funds (nearly 100K) have allowed us to make significant strides in developing a vision for reemergence that meets the needs of our stakeholders as well as develop a business plan to insure financial stability.

As such, the projected time line of 2012 to begin rebuilding is most reasonable and we would respectfully suggest that this effort is already underway. To their credit, the Department of Public Heath Sciences also continues to make significant strides toward that goal.

Thank you for your interest in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.