



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 184 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO REPORT ON HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSIONS.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Bertram, and members of the Committee on Higher Education:

I am Linda K. Johnsrud, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy at the University of Hawai'i System, and I am testifying on behalf of the University. Senate Concurrent Resolution 184 requests the University to study and report to the legislature on higher education student financial assistance commissions in other states, with input from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, a representative from a private higher education institution, the Hawai'i P-20 Initiative and the Hawai'i Business Roundtable.

The University of Hawai'i supports SCR 184. We look forward to preparing the report and examining practices in other states that that would help Hawai'i in strengthening access to higher education for its residents through the vehicle of a financial assistance commission while also supporting the state's need to increase educational capital, especially in critical areas. We look forward to discussions with the groups listed, and to making recommendations to you and your colleagues in the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.