



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs; Education;
Economic Development and Taxation; and Water and Land
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by
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SCR 235/SR138 – REQUESTING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA EXPAND UPON A MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM IN APPLIED ARCHAEOLOGY, THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO ESTABLISH A GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, AND THAT THE STATE HISTORICAL PRESERVATION DIVISION REVIVE ITS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKING GROUP.

Chairs Tokuda, Sakamoto, Fukunaga, Hee, Vice Chairs, and members of the Senate Committees:

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 235 / Senate Resolution 138 strongly encourages the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa to continue to develop and implement a Master of Arts program in applied archaeology and to expand this program to its neighbor island campuses including the planned graduate program in cultural resources management being developed at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

The University of Hawai'i strongly agrees with the importance of protecting Hawai'i's cultural and historic heritage, and appreciates the intent of SCR235/SR138 to help resolve the present historic preservation crisis by training and educating professionals. The UH-Mānoa program in Applied Archaeology was established in 2007 to train students specifically in the historic preservation of Hawai'i, and in its second year is receiving increased applications from Hawai'i students.

We support the intent of the resolution to encourage the University to continue to develop its program in applied archaeology, but must rely on each campus to weigh its priorities against other critical needs in the face of scarce resources. In the case of the Mānoa campus, health and safety issues related to repairs and maintenance must take precedence at this time if we are to uphold our mission of serving the state.

In the case of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, our campus there has testified in support of a Cultural Resource Management program at their campus, stating however, that they would need funding to expand their faculty numbers to support such a program.

We appreciate your support for the University of Hawaii, and thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.