



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony presented before the  
House Committee on Education, House Committee on Higher Education,  
House Committee on Labor and Public Employment  
March 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m.  
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### SB 2122 SD1: RELATING TO RESEARCH

Chairs Takumi, Chang, Rhoads, Vice Chairs and members of the House Committees on Education, Higher Education, and Labor and Public Employment:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2122 Senate Draft 1 that requires the sharing of data across state agencies to support research that improves education and workforce outcomes and meets the longitudinal data requirements of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

The University of Hawai'i supports SB 2122 SD1. As a partner of Hawai'i P-20, the University of Hawai'i has been a supporter of longitudinal data system development since its inception. As part of this process and in response to ARRA requirements, in October 2009 UH President MRC Greenwood signed a Memorandum of Understanding that was also signed by the Superintendent of the Hawai'i Department of Education and the Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. The purpose of the MOU was to establish a partnership to enable the sharing of data. The partners agreed to establish a data governance and access committee to determine protocols around research that would inform educational and workforce outcomes and policies.

SB 2122 SD1 establishes in statute key terms of the MOU, and reinforces the requirement to share data between agencies in a manner that safeguards confidentiality and strengthens the ability to conduct research to inform improvements for education and workforce outcomes in Hawai'i. As such it supports the state's efforts to meet one of the four assurances for ARRA funding, and establishes capacity for developing a statewide longitudinal data system.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.