



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
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by

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SB1332 Proposed SD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports SB1332 SD1 (Proposed) which would extend the repeal date of Act 82, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2010, from July 1, 2012 to July 1, 2015.

Act 82 provided the University with an exemption, with certain exceptions, from the requirements of the Hawai'i Public Procurement Code (Chapter 103D, HRS), effective July 1, 2010. The intent of this legislation was to afford the University with flexibility to pilot revisions to its procurement procedures to accelerate the acquisition of goods, services, and construction while still obtaining best value and maintaining transparency and fairness in the procurement process.

The President of the University appointed a Task Group consisting of members from other governmental agencies and representatives from the construction and engineering industry to assist the University in developing construction procurement procedures. The Board of Regents approved initial revisions to the University's procurement procedures at its meeting of June 28, 2010, for implementation effective July 1, 2010. The Board subsequently approved the Task Group recommended revisions to these procedures in the area of qualification-based construction procurement at its meeting of September 16, 2010. The University then conducted numerous workshops with the majority of construction related organizations statewide. About 250 contractors attended these workshops and 232 contractors have submitted or are in the process of submitting their statement of qualifications. UH has begun the procurement of construction services for several major projects, such as the Hawaiian Language Building at UH Hilo, and the IT Building at UH Mānoa using these new procedures.

While Act 82 afforded the University a very limited two-year period in which to pilot its revisions to its procurement procedures, SB1332 SD1 (Proposed) would expand this period to a total of five years. Because new construction projects normally take between 2 to 3 years to complete, this expanded window of time would provide the

University with a more reasonable period to refine further its procurement procedures and to conduct a more comprehensive evaluation and assess the effectiveness of this interim procurement process. It is for these reasons that the University strongly supports SB1332 SD1 (Proposed).

Thank you for this opportunity to testify with respect to SB1332 SD1 (Proposed).