



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented to the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 2:15pm
by
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SB 2066 – Relating to Unauthorized Computer Access

Chair Fukunuga, Vice-Chair Wakai and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony on SB2066.

The University's testimony is not about the specific language in this bill as currently written, but rather, a request that your committee, and the Legislature as a whole, consider incorporating language that provides a real and significant deterrence for the fraudulent use of Internet domain names.

As you have likely heard, the University of Hawai'i and the public are being victimized by a person or persons unknown who have acquired a "universityofhawaii" domain name and are using it in a manner that is purposefully intended to besmirch the University of Hawai'i and mislead the public for their personal private gain.

While we are preparing our options for civil action under Federal and/or State law, we believe that individuals who willfully and purposely attempt to profit through misleading the public by misrepresenting governmental organizations should also be held accountable as the wrongdoers they are.

The University of Hawai'i has not developed specific language for this. One approach might be to update Hawaii's decade-old statutes on "cybersquatting" (HRS §481B-21 to 25) to include the fraudulent use of domain names, such as the kind of malicious misrepresentation we are now seeing.

But we would welcome any approach the Legislature deems appropriate to better protect the public and the reputation of governmental entities from this malicious and self-serving behavior. We would be pleased to work with the committee or law enforcement experts to provide further input and information on our situation, in hopes this kind of behavior can be stopped before others are similarly victimized.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.