

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Comments presented before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means February 21, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. By Linda K. Johnsrud Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost, University of Hawai'i System

SB 1084: PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 1, OF THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO PERMIT THE APPROPRIATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS FOR PRIVATE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The University of Hawai'i supports SB 1084 that proposes an amendment to Article X, Section 1, of the Hawai'i State Constitution.

The University of Hawai'i recognizes the critical importance of early childhood education to lifetime development. Hawai'i must expand the number of children in the state who have access to high quality early childhood education programs, and the state's Department of the Attorney General has deemed that a constitutional amendment is necessary to advance this goal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.