



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations and Housing
February 10, 2014 at 2:45pm

by

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SB 2776 – RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Slom, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of the intent of SB 2776—
Relating to Economic Development.

My name is Linda Randall, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at University of Hawai'i
- West O'ahu. I am testifying today on behalf of the University.

The University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu (UHWO) supports SB 2776. We would very
much like to be a part of such an innovative opportunity to further the film production
and creative media industries in Hawai'i. The creation of a Film and Media Park on
UHWO land, in conjunction with our new Academy for Creative Media academic
programming, will establish a strong connection between education and high-
technology industry in Hawai'i.

UHWO has a Creative Media program and is partnering with the community colleges to
build a program that taps into the strengths of each campus. The goal of UHWO's
partnership is to provide a seamless gateway for these students to earn a
baccalaureate degree.

A Film and Media Park in proximity to UHWO's campus would encourage highly
talented high school students in programs like Searider productions to continue their
education and pursue a bachelor's degree in creative media at UHWO.

The Film and Media Park could provide internship and practicum opportunities as a way
to enhance students' education. This hub of activity and creativity would be a showcase
of university student talent. Hands-on opportunities in a dedicated Film and Media Park
near the UHWO will better prepare baccalaureate students for professional work in the
industry. The collaborative nature of the Park will also draw attention to the innovative
academic programs in our State's high schools and University system – a win-win
situation for our State.

While we support this concept, UHWO is concerned about the exact location of the Film
and Media Park, and the potential for the site to interface and provide opportunities for
collaboration with the UHWO campus, and request to be a part of the decision making
process for the siting of the Park.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support and concerns on this measure.