



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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WRITTEN COMMENTS  
Submitted to the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
February 19, 2014 at 9:20 am  
by  
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University of Hawai'i

### SB 2816 SD1 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COSTS

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i strongly supports Senate Bill 2816, SD1 making an appropriation to support University of Hawai'i collective bargaining agreement costs for Unit 7 members and their excluded counterparts.

This is a high priority included in the University's Board of Regents FY15 Supplemental Budget Request and is fully supported by the Governor in the FY15 Executive Supplemental Budget Request.

These funds represent the restoration of general funds for faculty salaries that were reduced during the recession, as well as for the modest 3 percent salary increases that were negotiated for each year of this current fiscal biennium. This funding request is fully consistent with the appropriations made for all other public employee collective bargaining unit settlements.

The funding requested in this bill is an important cornerstone for supporting the financial sustainability of the University of Hawai'i System and for enabling us to provide the 21<sup>st</sup>-century facilities for learning our students need and deserve. We consider this item to be our highest funding priority within our FY15 supplemental operating budget request.

We respectfully ask for legislative support for the restoration of faculty salaries to their base levels, as was done for all other collective bargaining units, and for these modest negotiated collective bargaining increases that are consistent with all other collective bargaining settlements for this biennium.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments in strong support of Senate Bill 2816 SD1.