



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, February 06, 2014 at 2:45p.m., Conference Room 414
by
Jan Javinar
Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

SB 2906 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahele, and Members of the Committee:

SB 2906 appropriates funds to the University of Hawai'i to pay student employees at new or expanded worksites on each of the campuses.

The University of Hawai'i System supports the intent of SB 2906. On campus employment for college students benefit both the students and the campuses on which they are employed. For students, employment provides funds needed to cover rising college costs and affords opportunities to learn critical workforce and life skills as they matriculate and learn. For the college campuses, on campus student employees serve as a talented workforce, performing a myriad of critical functions that enable each campus to meet the needs that members of the campus community bring with them.

Additionally, national research findings show that students who work on campus perform better academically than those who work off-campus. They also persist towards graduation at higher rates. The University of Hawai'i System recognizes that it is in its best interest to have our students work with us, and for us, in order to improve their persistence towards degree completion.

In summary, the University of Hawai'i System welcomes the support offered by SB 2906 provided that this support does not adversely affect the University's priorities as articulated in its budget request. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 2906.