

Legislative Testimony

## Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means April 1, 2014 at 9:00am by Joanne Itano Interim Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Hawai'i

SCR 128 SD1 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CREATE A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS MAJORS RELEVANT TO INDUSTRY DEMANDS IN HAWAII.

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

The University of Hawai'i supports this resolution. Occupations in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields are increasingly vital to the economic growth and productivity of our state and our country, and the University is working to train and educate college students, as well as work with our K-12 partners, to be prepared for STEM occupations. As noted in the resolution, the University has, as one of its strategic measures, to increase the number of UH degrees in STEM fields, and every campus has identified various initiatives to support this priority.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.