



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
and the
Senate Committee on Higher Education and the Arts
April 6, 2015 at 1:15pm
by
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SCR 156/SR 97 – REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE COLLEGE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE THE EXPANSION OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM.

Chairs Shimabukuro and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Inouye, and members of the committees:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SCR 156/SR 97 and appreciates the legislature's recognition of the significant work of the UH Hilo College of Hawaiian Language programs.

We respectfully disagree, however, with asserting at this time that the current structures of the University of Hawai'i System are a barrier to achieving the objectives stated in SCR 156/SR 97. We believe that structure is one of the questions that the proposed working group should explore.

The University suggests that the scope of the working group be broadened to include representatives from all four units in the University of Hawai'i to ensure the full resources and support of the ten campuses across the entire UH System, and making working group membership reflect a comprehensive statewide and systemwide approach.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.