



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
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by
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and
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HB 2521, HD 2, SD1 – Relating to Education

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 2521, HD2, SD1 which authorizes the issuance of \$ 60 million in general obligation bonds and appropriates \$ 20 million in general funds to fund University of Hawaii repair and maintenance projects. It also establishes the statewide academy for creative media program in statute under the University of Hawai'i.

We appreciate the support of the legislature in enabling the University of Hawaii to address our physical plant backlog of repair and maintenance on our ten campuses. These monies will allow the University to provide critical improvements to the infrastructure which in turn ensures the University's ability to meet the state's educational and research needs.

We also appreciate the Legislature's recognition of the success of the Academy for Creative Media since its establishment by the Board of Regents and the popularity of its programs among students. We also appreciate very much the intent of Part II of the bill to provide support for the expansion of the program on University of Hawai'i campuses statewide.

This bill would make possible the academic planning necessary to assess program and student needs, coordinate course offerings at the different campuses and ensure that courses are articulated statewide. With carefully articulated programs, students are able to plan their course work, transfer credits, and progress smoothly toward achieving their academic goals and graduating.

We do have a requested amendment on page 9, lines 4-5:

"SECTION 2. Since being approved by the University of Hawai'i board of regents four [~~three~~] years ago, . . ."

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.