

**Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education**

February 5, 2008 at 2:00 p.m.

by
Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 3436 Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Bertram, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha! I'm delighted to have the opportunity to discuss with you all the potential issuance of general obligation bonds for the University of Hawai'i for capital renewal, deferred maintenance, repair, renovation, improvement, and replacement projects.

As you know, maintenance and repair on the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus is a mounting concern, and I am very grateful for the growing interest in this problem—and in particular for recent efforts by the Legislature and others to help find creative solutions to the critical state of our campus infrastructure.

It is no secret that restoring the Mānoa campus and making it a destination of choice is my top priority. Since arriving in July, I quickly recognized that facilities deterioration on campus represents our major challenge, and led me to describe our campus as a jewel in many ways—particularly intellectually—but also to note that it is badly tarnished physically. Such deterioration didn't happen overnight, but rather is the result of decades of neglected repairs and maintenance.

In this our Centennial year, we have much to celebrate. We were able to bring Hawai'i to New Orleans for the experience of a lifetime watching our very own Warriors compete in the Sugar Bowl. It was thrilling, and I am so proud of our entire institution, particularly our athletics program, for being able to accomplish that experience and to our community for their unbelievable support.

This experience generated great pride in being affiliated with UH—it was palpable and visible in New Orleans. Through athletics, folks learned a lot about Hawai'i and UH Mānoa; such recognition benefits the State and our sister UH campuses.

Along with pride, however, competition at the national level brought with it the recognition that many of our campus facilities are in need of a major overhaul. This is the case in athletics and across the campus. It will take a tremendous effort by all of our supporters to have facilities that can support our mission.

I appreciate that your job is difficult because the University is not the only institution in the state with deferred maintenance issues—and the needs are great. I'm not looking to you all to solve all of our problems, but rather to join us in leveraging the state's investment in the University and supporting projects where we do not have other revenue or private opportunities for support.

Facilities do clearly play a significant role in making UH Mānoa a destination of choice for students, faculty, staff, and community members. Thankfully our new Assistant VC for Facilities, Dave Hafner, has the expertise to analyze our facilities needs—here are a few facts:

- Our deferred maintenance backlog has been chronically underestimated, our new estimate using business standard analyses indicates upwards of \$400,000,000;
- Our current facilities workforce is only able to react to breakdowns on campus, about 950 work orders a month, with a backlog of 4,607 work orders;
- Less than 5% of our efforts are expended on preventive maintenance, making the future full of more of the same experiences. Twenty-five buildings currently have major system breakdowns, 37 have significant leaks—and that's not surprising since 36 of our buildings are over 60 years old; a top priority is to repairs the roofs to protect the programs from continual water damage;
- Costs are increasing—sewage up 82% in 6 months; construction costs at a 10% inflation rate, which makes delays vastly expensive.

So how do we address these challenges? Certainly resources play a key role but so does having nimbleness and flexibility. My goal is for us to move more rapidly and efficiently to realize the full value of investments you make. To accomplish that, we need to change the way we do business—such as pursuing public/private partnerships, restoration of our state procurement exemption, using debt, assertive licensing and more.

The Mānoa Facilities team is changing to improve and meet our needs—for example, they are participating for the first time in a process which serves as a nation-wide benchmark for campus facilities performance. Due to R&M upgrades on their part, our electricity usage is down by 6 and ½ % from last year—a potential savings of \$1.3 million annually.

We're certainly seeing positive changes due to your investments—our new dormitory Frear Hall is on time, on budget and will open this fall and is sorely needed. Our next target is renovation of the four residential towers. Campus Center is being renovated to meet student needs.

Private investments are moving us ahead as well and are critical to our future—clearly the Shidler gift to the Business School has been transformational, both intellectually and physically—and our entering MBA students are the most highly qualified to date—there is a connection.

Since Mānoa is a large enterprise, there are a number of requests within the budget important to our future and our Mānoa team members and I will seek to answer any questions you may have about those.

In closing, my hope for the future is that we can work together to realize the full potential of UH Mānoa as a beautiful, intellectually stimulating center of activity – in that way, UH Mānoa can best serve the State of Hawai'i and also be a strong partner for our sister UH campuses. I know your investment in the university generates great returns because our alumni, public service, and research advances all contribute positively to the lives of our citizens and I believe we should all be quite proud of those activities. Mahalo.

Sam Callejo
Vice President for Administration, University of Hawai'i

HB 3436 - Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Bertram and members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 3436 that will allow all the nine campuses with the \$257 million backlog in deferred maintenance projects to address the high priority projects.

The \$100 million being proposed in this bill is much appreciated and would signal a good beginning to a six year program that would get us to a sustainable level at that time. Reaching this level would be based on a six year plan at \$100 million per year. \$50 million would go towards reducing the backlog and the other \$50 million would be used to maintain the current facilities at a normal level and eliminate the build up of any more "deferred maintenance" projects.

We also appreciate the support of the legislature to fund \$13.25 million in CIP funds for the Mānoa Athletics projects, some of which will address Title IX compliance issues for women's sports.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your support of the University of Hawai'i.

HB 3436 "RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII"

To: House Committee on Higher Education
Chair, Representative Jerry Chang
Vice-Chair, Representative Joe Bertram

From: Debra Ogata-Arakaki
2139 Halekoa Dr.
Honolulu, HI 96821

Representing: University of Hawaii Warrior Fan

Hearing Date: February 5, 2008
Hearing Time: 2:00 pm
Hearing Location: Conference Room 309

Dear Chair Chang, Vice-Chair Bertram, and distinguished members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in strong support of HB 3436 (RELATING TO the UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII). My name is Debra Ogata-Arakaki. I was born and raised in Hawaii and am a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I have been a loyal fan of Warrior Football, and Men's and Women's Volleyball for many years.

I support this bill because it will infuse funds into the Athletic Program's facilities that have been sorely neglected. As a loyal fan of the Warrior football team, I took great pride in the accomplishments of the team this past year. The fact that this 2007 football team was able to galvanize an entire state was an amazing thing to behold. The spirit that pervaded the team and the State was infectious. For several months, this team carried the state of Hawaii on its broad shoulders, and hoisted it up for the country to see. The University of Hawaii Warriors were recognized as the only unbeaten team in the country. We couldn't have asked for better publicity for the State and for the School. Athletics has the ability to positively impact a wide range of people. The State should recognize this and support the Athletic Department in its endeavor to improve its facilities and ultimately the program.

The results of last season do not need to be a once in a lifetime achievement. The University of Hawaii could and should be a perennial powerhouse for WAC championships in multiple sports, but most importantly, football as this is the program that provides much of the financial support for the department. By investing in this program, the State will reap the financial rewards that will come with consistent program excellence. But this cannot happen unless we can recruit quality players and this won't happen if our facilities are in a state of disrepair. How the school treats its students is a direct reflection of how the State treats its School.

An appropriation of \$25,000,000 directed to the Athletic Department would help to fund the basic repairs needed to restore and improve the facilities.

In summary I would like to restate my strong support for passage of **HB 3436**. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for the committee.

Haunani Olds

From: Chris Gorin [chris_gorin@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 10:49 AM
To: HEDtestimony; Rep. Lynn Finnegan; Rep. Corinne Ching; Rep. Glenn Wakai; Rep. Roy Takumi; Rep. Dwight Takamine; Rep. K. Mark Takai; Rep. Maile Shimabukuro; Rep. Scott Saiki; Rep. Scott Nishimoto; Rep. Rida Cabanilla; Rep. Lyla B. Berg; Rep. Joe Bertram III; Rep. Jerry Chang
Subject: House Bill 3436

I support House Bill 3436. I feel it's time for the money to be forwarded to UH to take care of their sport's facilities and support the very lucrative UH football program.

*Peace and love,
Chris Gorin
16125 Juanita-Woodinville Way NE #1903
Bothell, Wa 98103*

It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed."
—Napoleon Hill

Haunani Olds

From: Keith Takeda [keithtakeda@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 10:38 AM
To: HEDtestimony; RepTakaiStaff@gmail.com; Rep. Lynn Finnegan; Rep. Corinne Ching; Rep. Glenn Wakai; Rep. Roy Takumi; Rep. Dwight Takamine; Rep. K. Mark Takai; Rep. Maile Shimabukuro; Rep. Scott Saiki; Rep. Scott Nishimoto; Rep. Rida Cabanilla; Rep. Lyla B. Berg; Rep. Joe Bertram III; Rep. Jerry Chang
Subject: House Bill 3436 Testimony

Dear, Chair Jerry Chang, House Higher Education Committee,

This testimony is in regards for HB3436 hearing on Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309. I am unable to make it in person, so I am submitting this email in my place.

I am a proud alumnus of the University of Hawaii, class of 1999. The University provided me a great education at a great price. Not only did I get a degree, it also gave me a chance to experience the college life, one part of which was supporting our college teams. I was a member of the UH band during my time there, and we got to go to many games which further my love for UH athletics.

I continue to support them now as an alumnus. I jumped on the UH bandwagon when I was a child, watching them on tv. I even caught the city bus to go to games because my parents weren't interested in taking me. I haven't ever gotten off, and will still support them from 6 feet under. Some of my friends say I bleed green, and they're probably right.

For my work with as a DOD Civilian working with the US Navy, I've traveled to many bases around the US. Everywhere I go, I make sure I have some sort of clothing with green and the UH "H" on it. I wear it proudly. With the recent success of our team, the recognition of the logo and colors has brought many comments. This past year, I spent a couple of months in Maine at their shipyard. Many guys there stopped to talk about the team and about our great QB. During those conversations they would always bring up that they'd love to visit Hawaii. Not only does the success of our team bring name recognition for our athletics, it also brings interest to possible \$\$\$ for the state for its appeal as a vacation destination.

Being there at the Sugar Bowl, with all of the thousands of Hawaii fans that traveled from far and wide gave me a sense of pride I've never felt before. There were shakas and hand shakes and head-nods and smiles all around. Just being from Hawaii brought all of us together 6400 miles from home.

Just like anything else, news can have its pros and cons. As our team continued its unbeaten streak, news coverage continued to be positive and grow. It peaked with the Sugar Bowl. Everyone was talking about Hawaii and the miracle season we were having. Sure the outcome was not what was desired, but little did we know the what would happen in the weeks to follow.

As things unfolded, we found out the reason why June had left. It was the lack of effort to improve and correct the situation regarding athletic department facilities. Promises were always made but never kept. Things were not all lower campus' fault. Money was tight everywhere on campus. As the team and June Jones were national news throughout the season, the national media immediately picked up on his resignation and the reasons for it. This brought an embarrassing look at how things were run and not handled well. Within one week, we went from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows.

2/4/2008

One friend put it that he hasn't seen this sort of madness since the Fab Five days, but this was 100 times fold, as this was football. The celebrity status that the players got was unheard of. Although I would've liked to have been around for the Fab 5 days, many of us weren't. This was our Fab Football team.

Someone else mentioned that the whole state of Hawaii hasn't been this united for one cause since Kamehameha the First brought the islands together. And I tend to agree.

We need to make sure that not only the athletic department, but the whole University system can continue to provide the support and facilities to make our student athletes proud to be apart of as much as we are proud to support them.

Here's to the new future that we can all make happen together,

Sincerely,

Keith Takeda
UH fan

`Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?', Alice asked,
`That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,' said the Cat.
`I don't much care where--' said Alice.
`Then it doesn't matter which way you go,' said the Cat.
`--so long as I get somewhere,' Alice added as an explanation.
`Oh, you're sure to do that,' said the Cat, `if you only walk long enough.'

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Haunani Olds

From: Anne Valeron [lifeisbutifl@shaw.ca]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:55 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: House Bill 3436

I am in support of House Bill 3436.

The UH Warriors have united the island people, brought national attention to the Hawaiian islands, and brought in millions of dollars to the school. The UH sports facilities has been an embarassment and cost us June Jones who lead our football team to our only BCS game. It's now time for the powers that be to support Coach Mack to continue the Warrior's successful path.

Please pass this bill so we can support UH Warriors that ultimately benefits us all in Hawaii.

**Thank you,
Anne Valeron
92-726 Aoloko Pl
Kapolei, Hi 96792**

Haunani Olds

From: Scott Sports Hawaii [scott.komatsu@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 9:37 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: House Bill 3436

**To Chair Jerry Chang and the members of the House Higher Education Committee,
Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309**

I Scott Komatsu support House Bill 3436. Please give the University of Hawaii the means to compete with other schools in the WAC by providing them with a safe, clean and positive environment. Improvements to their facility will go a long way in helping the school become more self sufficient economically. I also have little ones (5 and 6 years old) and hope that 12 years from now I'd be a proud parent sending them to the University of Hawaii, without having to worry about their safety and learning environment. Thank you.

--

Mahalo,
Scott Komatsu
www.sportshawaii.com
"Hawaii's Fan Based Sports Page"

Haunani Olds

From: Kent Kiyabu [kkiyabu@hyatt.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 9:47 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: Support for House Bill 3436 (Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309) and the bill number (HB 3436)

Aloha Chairman Jerry Chang and members of the House Higher Education Committee,

My name is Kent M. Kiyabu I am writing to you to voice my support for House Bill 3436 that will be discussed on Tuesday, February 5th at 2 PM.

I wholeheartedly support this bill because being a Hawai`i resident that is born and raised, attended public school, enrolled and graduated from the University system, and still working and living in our beautiful state that we all call home, it is the right thing to do.

It is the right thing to do because the University of Hawai`i and its campuses around the state help to educate our citizens, future leaders, parents, business owners and from the athletics standpoint, facilitates pride for where we work, live, and play. It does not only instill a sense of pride, but it can help students make goals and gives them a framework or mind set that will help them achieve them and when they see that they can do good in one area, it will spill over to other areas of their lives. It can teach them to be responsible and accountable for their actions, be a team player, and help to reinforce the values of O'hana.

From an economical view, investing in athletics is the best advertising that money can buy. How many millions of people watched our football team this year? Double digit millions! How about how many teams come to Hawai`i to play games? Thousands and they all have to spend money on food, lodging, airfare, services, transportation, etc.

I will stop now and not make this too long, but I hope that you do understand the importance and the power that athletics holds for not just our physical and mental health, but, the social, economic fabric of our state.

Mahalo,

Kent M. Kiyabu

Proud Graduate of Pahoehoe High School
Proud Graduate of Hawai`i Community College Proud Graduate of The University of Hawai`i at Manoa

Haunani Olds

From: Gordon Wong [flashgw@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 9:46 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: House Bill 3436

To Whomever It May Concern,

I totally support House Bill 3436 and I hope and pray that you will indeed approve this bill. I believe that it is extremely important that we address the needs of our beloved University of Hawaii at this time after years of neglect. This will enable our University to become more efficient and functional and provide our students and athletes with facilities which they can be proud of and to be competitive.

The success of our University of Hawaii provides a rallying point and pride for our entire community! And the recent success of our football team provided so much togetherness, pride, happiness and joy to our entire state!

A recent example reflects how far reaching the success of our football team conveyed. While on a recent vacation to California, a number of strangers approached me while I was having dinner and wearing my UH cap. They all wished our football team success in our Sugarbowl game and to whip Georgia!

Mahalo and Aloha,

GordonWong
46-121 Hinapu Street
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

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HEDtestimony



From: Wayne Coito [waynekai@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 10:28 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: HB 3436

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF HAWAII
STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Dear Chairman Jerry Chang and the members of the House Higher Education Committee,

My name is Wayne Coito, and I write to you in support of house bill number HB 3436.

As a supporter of UH athletics and a former NCAA student-athlete, I can tell you that in my observations that the athletic facilities at UH-Manoa are in utter disrepair and their quality at a much lower level than most colleges and universities around the country. Cooke Field for one has become an eye-sore, and a playground for stray cats. The Stan Sheriff Center has lost its modern flair; what once was state-of-the-art has simply become old-fashioned.

A walk through the athletic complex gives you a look at run-down dance studios and unreadable signage.

These are my observations simply as a fan of the program, I can only imagine what it's like to be a student-athlete at UH-Manoa. But even then it would be hard to avoid comments made in local newspapers by former UH quarterback Colt Brennan, who decried the sorry situation that was handed to his top 10 nationally-ranked football team in pitiful locker rooms to go along with the lack of soap in the showers. I can tell you for my time as a student-athlete in my small liberal arts college in the Northeast that I would never have reason to complain about those issues. Adequate locker rooms and sanitary conditions are something students come to expect in successful athletic programs.

I can tell you that an upgrade in athletic facilities will absolutely lead to benefits across the entire campus. Better facilities will be more inviting to better athletes, leading to more success on the field.

A more successful athletic program will bring revenue that would more than make up for the small investment you could put into the university with this bill.

This past year, our coaching staff at UH-Manoa was able to do something probably no other staff in the country would have been able to do, take a team made up of players not many other teams wanted and give them facilities few athletes could tolerate, and take them to the nation's highest stage, the Bowl Championship Series. One trip to the BCS has already earned our school millions. One simple investment into facilities will make the BCS a habit.

What going to a BCS game has done for our program is immense, but what going to the BCS has done for our state is immeasurable. More and more kama'aina now identify as fans of the program, galvanized by the success of a few of proud young men on the football field. Can it be argued that the state has not seen a more euphoric time than the month of Dember 2007 in anticipation for the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans?

As the athletic program starts to increase its revenue from more and more happy fans donating back to the system and even more success in national bowl games, we will be able to start pouring that money into improving academic buildings and social and intellectual spots on campus and give professors the opportunity to do more research and become more renowned in their fields, for those are enormous factors to drive good students to want to come to a good institution. As more students apply to the school, admission will become more competitive and school more prestigious.

In closing, there is no better time than now for this change to happen. As UH fans this past year, we have tasted the top, we have experienced greatness, and there is no turning back now. Unless, of course, our government does nothing to keep up this momentum. Build with us the inertia that will catapult our athletic program at UH-Manoa to even greater heights now unknown, for the betterment this program, for the betterment of this university, and for the betterment of this entire state.

Mahalo Nui,

HEDtestimony

From: Susanne Kiriaty [avisuz@avikiriaty.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 9:01 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: I support House Bill 3436

I have been a university of Hawaii fan for many years. I think it is about time that improvements are made to our facilities. The kids of compete for our school have competed far too long in poor conditions. Hawaii has a chance to take a step forward, and so it would be a shame if we did not do so. Aloha.

HEDtestimony

From: Duane Pavao [dpavao@fhb.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:56 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: House Bill 3436

To the House Higher Education Committee regarding House Bill 3436;

Regarding the Hearing on Tuesday, February 5th 2008 at 2pm in Capitol Room 309:

I am writing to support House Bill 3436 regarding funding for University Hawaii athletics. As a former coach at UH I can personally attest to the difficulty of not only attracting student athletes to the program, but properly preparing and training the existing athletes with less than adequate facilities.

As the past year's football season has shown, the entire state and transplanted Hawaii residents on the mainland and elsewhere are proud to support teams from the University of Hawaii. The fans, athletes, and coaches deserve to compete on a level playing field.

Thank you

Duane Pavao

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HEDtestimony

From: peachy@hawaiiink.net
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:47 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: Rep. Jerry Chang; Rep. K. Mark Takai; Sen. Gary Hooser; Rep. Hermina Morita; Rep. James Tokioka; Rep. Roland Sagum
Subject: HB 3436- URGENT!

RE: HB 3436
Hearing Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 2 p.m., Capitol Room 309

Representative Chang and Members of the Higher Education Committee:

It is with pleasure that I write to FULLY SUPPORT HB 3436 which will allow UH to become the University it should be, as it relates to addressing long overdue maintenance issues.

I am a proud Kaua'i Community College and University of Hawai'i at Manoa graduate. I was a teacher in the public school system from 1989 through 2005. I know what it is like to work in less than satisfactory conditions and the negative effect it has on one's morale. I also know the adverse effect such conditions have on students, as someone who has done my fair share of teaching in a closet or a workroom.

It is for this reason that I am happy to know that Legislators are attempting to address maintenance issues at UH. Some of these issues were present from when I first got my undergraduate degree in the 80's!

As a recent UH graduate degree recipient in 2005, I am fully aware of the Hamilton Library shortcomings, having received my Master's degree in Library and Information Science, with a school tract focus, and the hardship placed on students when the Library has to be closed due to rain damage. The Library (and all of us as citizens of Hawai'i) already suffered the devastating effects of the flood previously and to have to continuously contend with a damaged roof which constantly provides a risk of ruining important resources is really, in my opinion, asking too much of these dedicated Library professionals to routinely contend with and also asking too much of us as citizens, who value the Library resources, to accept.

As a graduate of UH, I am thankful that Legislators and the Legislature is putting emphasis and much-needed financial resources towards restoring our as Chancellor Hinshaw has noted, jewel of Manoa and its community college campuses.

As an educator, I am grateful that you are concerned enough about education to put this issue on the forefront.

As a taxpayer, I can think of almost no better way for my taxes to be spent.

As a parent of young adults who will hopefully soon be UH students, I am glad that my children will not be faced with some of the same maintenance issues which were present when I got my undergraduate degree in the 80's!

Finally, as someone who is a confirmed UH sports fanatic, I am thrilled that neglected athletic facilities will be upgraded.

It is time for us all to work together and support each other and dispel the obvious disconnect between academics and athletics; between upper campus and lower campus. There should be no in-fighting over meager and limited resources. There should be a timely schedule of maintenance reviews and repairs as surely it is more cost effective to regularly maintain than to restore or rebuild. There should be a timely awarding of monies from the Legislature to ensure that our University is kept in good condition.

We need to embrace the fact that when academics are 'solid', then athletics will benefit, and similarly, when athletics are 'solid' then academics will benefit. We are all fortunate enough to be a part of a wonderful educational institution, which has weathered 100 years existence and which has well serviced the youth of Hawai'i nei. Let us strive

to be responsible for providing the firm foundation for another 100 years of continued successes for the future generations of Hawai'i nei.

We are currently enjoying five (5) athletics teams holding WAC CHAMP titles. Other than football, can any of you name them? The remaining four (4) out of five (5) teams are ALL Wahine teams!

With pride in UH and with enthusiasm for the future of UH,

Pat Hunter-Williams
PO Box 127
Anahola, Kaua'i, HI 96703
1-808-822-1520
1-808-639-0888
e-mail: peachy@hawaiilink.net

HEDtestimony

From: Steve Ogiba [ogibas001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:21 AM
To: HEDtestimony; Rep. Lynn Finnegan; Rep. Corinne Ching; Rep. Glenn Wakai; Rep. Roy Takumi; Rep. Dwight Takamine; Rep. K. Mark Takai; Rep. Maile Shimabukuro; Rep. Scott Saiki; Rep. Scott Nishimoto; Rep. Rida Cabanilla; Rep. Lyla B. Berg; Rep. Joe Bertram III; Rep. Jerry Chang
Cc: RepTakaiStaff@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Please Chair Chang support HB 3436 & UH Athletics

Please reference hearing Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309.

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Ogiba [mailto:ogibas001@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:10 AM
To: HEDtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov
Cc: RepTakaiStaff@gmail.com
Subject: Please Chair Chang support HB 3436 & UH Athletics

Chair Jerry Chang,

I urge and strongly endorse your support of HB 3436. This appropriation totaling \$113.25 million includes a total of \$25 million for deferred maintenance projects for the UH Manoa Athletic Department. Certainly, I support every effort to improve facilities throughout the university's 10-campus system.

As a University of Hawaii sports supporter since my island arrival in 1983, I very much understand the great impact the decisions made today will have on our future. Cooke Field needs new turf. Coaches' offices and locker rooms need an overhaul. Such support now will build the momentum needed for our athletics director to build our sports programs into a vision of excellence not only recognized on the mainland but through out Asia and the Pacific.

Please support Coach Mack, Coach Nash and all the University of Hawaii sports coaches and our athletes and students by approving;

1. Cooke field, field replacement--\$1,500,000 2. Cooke field, bleacher replacement--\$500,000 3. Les Murakami stadium, renovations--\$2,300,000 4. Stan Sheriff center, renovations--\$750,000 5. Gym I and gym II, renovations--\$750,000 6. Lower campus road, resurfacing--\$350,000 7. Health, physical education, and recreation classrooms, renovations--\$5,000,000 8. Coaches offices, renovations--\$100,000 9. Duke Kahanamoku aquatic center, renovations--\$500,000 10. Women's locker rooms, improvements and for Title IX compliance--\$3,200,000 11. Men's locker rooms, improvements--\$1,000,000 12. Master plan for lower campus--\$750,000 13. Cooke field, mauka structure and seats--\$5,000,000 14. Cooke field, mauka rest rooms and locker rooms--\$2,300,000 15. Softball stadium, improvements--\$1,000,000

Please make this University all that it can be.

My better half, as a University of Hawaii alumni and long term basketball and football season ticket holder with myself, also urges your support of HB 3436.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very Respectively,
Stephen A. Ogiba
and
Mimi Ogiba

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HEDtestimony

From: Roger Reynolds [simpleroggie@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 7:47 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: House Bill 3436

Hi, my name is Roger Lewis and I'm sending this email in support of House Bill 3436. I am a former UH student and I remember how bad the facilities were in upper and lower campus. With the University of Hawaii being our flagship university, it is an embarrassment to see how bad things have gotten. This bill needs to get passed so that the funds can get to the Athletic department as well as Upper Campus so we can finally take OUR university to the next level and longer be ashamed of how bad things have gotten there.

Thanks,
Roger

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HEDtestimony

From: Alan Kimura [kimuraa012@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 9:09 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: Rep. K. Mark Takai
Subject: HB 3436

Chrmn Hon Jerry Chang
House Higher Ed. Committee
Re HB3436
Hearing on 2/5/08 2pm Capitol Room 309.

Hon. Jerry Chang and the members of the House Higher Education Committee,

I would like to thank you and the many other members of this Legislative body whom have championed the passing of this HB 3436.

Unfortunately, it took a student-athlete, Colt Brennan, to bring the state of disrepair at our state's only public institution of higher learning to the limelight. As the so called flagship of our higher education system, we should all insure that the students, athletes, and those adults who seek a degree or further knowledge be allowed to enjoy facilities that can enhance this process.

We, as a state must come to realize that the continued maintenance and upgrading of facilities is paramount towards keeping us in the upper percentile of institutions of higher learning across this country.

No need to point fingers as to why this has come to this point of no return. We must take proactive measures to insure that we are on the right path towards remedying this situation such that we can now take a giant step forward in improving the campus in general.

Recently, I had visited a staff member in the science department. It was my first time walking the grounds of the upper campus in forty years, yes, that is right I did say 40 years. It brought back many memories of a young kid in awe at the beauty of the Manoa campus. Then when I went in to the building I was shocked and felt ashamed at the obvious lack of maintenance over the years.

I have often gone to baseball, basketball, volleyball, football practices, as well as special events held at the Stan Sheriff Center. I could see how things have started to deteriorate. This fall I visited the football training room and other areas, sure it is nice to have and compared to most public high schools we do have a lot to offer. Having seen several of the private high schools' facilities first hand, I can honestly and sadly say that their facilities make ours look like an abandoned derelict. I did say private high schools.

I have also visited the campus' and facilities of universities in California, Nevada, and Oregon. I will say that we are now light years away in campus atmosphere and athletic facilities.

It is time, time for all of us to step up to the plate and deliver. This House Bill 3436 is a start in the right direction I would hope that all of those on committee have done a great job in the research of this bill. I know that the monies on request for allocation will never be enough and I do hope that a master plan is in place or is nearly developed within the end of this session.

The University of Hawaii has been and will always be a source of pride to all of those who have attended a class whether it be in the community colleges, college of continued education, or those fortunate enough to earn a degree there. Many of our people of Hawaii, in fact, have never attended a single class here, but, through the athletic programs they have developed a "close relationship" with the University of Hawaii. They too, deserve to enjoy facilities that are of the highest standards.

Gentlemen of the committee and all those responsible for our State of Hawaii and its institution of higher learning, I implore you all to see to it that this House Bill 3436 is acknowledged and voted upon to insure the continued success of this state of Hawaii.

Do the right things pass this bill.

Mahalo for listening.

Alan Kimura
President
Island Estate Solutions

HEDtestimony

From: Anne Valeron [lifeisbutifl@shaw.ca]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:55 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: House Bill 3436

I am in support of House Bill 3436.

The UH Warriors have united the island people, brought national attention to the Hawaiian islands, and brought in millions of dollars to the school. The UH sports facilities has been an embarassment and cost us June Jones who lead our football team to our only BCS game. It's now time for the powers that be to support Coach Mack to continue the Warrior's successful path.

Please pass this bill so we can support UH Warriors that ultimately benefits us all in Hawaii.

**Thank you,
Anne Valeron
92-726 Aoloko Pl
Kapolei, Hi 96792**

HEDtestimony

From: Mei Ling Chun [meiling.chun@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:04 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: HB 3436

RE: HB 3436

I am in support of HB 3436 to improve the campuses in the University of Hawai'i system.

Although I do not live in Hawai'i yet, I am planning to move home in the Fall to live and work in Hawai'i. I work at a university in Arizona, Northern Arizona University, and we were facing the same deferred maintenance problems several years ago. With additional funding from the Legislature, and some private funding & bonding, we've been able to upgrade our campus and make repairs to the aging buildings. I believe this has had the effect of helping to increase our student enrollment in part because of updated facilities. As a small example, we went from an approximate 25 students total from Hawai'i five years ago to an incoming class of 100 students from Hawai'i this past Fall for a total of 200 Hawai'i students.

Having a new Chemistry building four years ago, a new lab sciences building last year, and a brand new Applied Research and Development building which is certified Platinum LEED from the U.S. Green Building Council is helping to bring in additional grant funds to campus. We are now in the planning stages of a five year plan to upgrade the athletic facilities. I know the UH-Manoa needs athletic facilities upgrades now and money spent to start those repairs and upgrades will only help to bring in additional funding support because of their visibility.

Please vote in favor of HB 3436 as it will pay dividends in the future for the future of Hawai'i.

Mary L. Mei Ling Chun
Maryknoll HS '69
Northern Arizona University - Information Technology Systems
HAPA Hawaiian Club advisor

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HEDtestimony

From: sca199@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:01 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: HB 3436

I strongly support HB 3436 which proposes an appropriation of a total of \$113.25 million, which includes a total of \$25 million for deferred maintenance project for the UH Manoa Athletic Department.

This bill will direct much needed funding to our embarrassing Athletic Facilities. This is a reflection on our State and the people that live here. Please pass this legislation.

Mahalo,

Smith Cobb-Adams
240 keaniani Pl
Kailua, HI

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HEDtestimony

From: kuboleonardmari@aol.com
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 7:55 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: testimony

To: Chairman Jerry Chang and HHEC

Concerning House Bill 3436, Feb. 5, 2 PM, Capitol

I support HB3436 for the obvious reason that UH, as a representative of the State of Hawaii, should not look like the College of the Ghetto -- which UH is starting to resemble.

Leonard Kubo
Hilo, Hawaii

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HEDtestimony

From: GARY YAMASHIRO [gary_yam@msn.com]

Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 7:53 AM

To: HEDtestimony

Subject: house bill 3436

Please pass house bill 3436. The university is in dire need of renovations. I would like UH to be able to continue to build upon the recent success it has had, and the facilities (or lack of) are a major part of that.

Thank you,
Gary Yamashiro
A Maui UH fan

HEDtestimony

From: Jill Dekneef [fernander018@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 8:19 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: Support for HB 3436

To: Chairman Jerry Chang and Members of the House Higher Education Committee

Dear Sirs/Madam

I fully support HB 3436 – A bill proposing the appropriation of \$113.25 million to address the overwhelming need to maintain, repair, or replace aging, deteriorated, buildings and infrastructures at various campuses of the University of Hawaii. I believe that it is vitally necessary to foster and maintain a first class educational system at the collegiate level in this state. We all are aware of the important role that the University of Hawaii plays regarding the achievement of the educational, economic, and sociological goals of the citizens and communities throughout Hawaii. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my support for HB 3436.

Aloha and Mahalo, Robert M. Fernandez

HEDtestimony

From: Timothy_Lyons@capgroup.com
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 6:55 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: Testimony for HB 3436 -- Bill provides funds for athletic and academic facilities at UH Manoa and the other nine UH campuses

To: Chair Jerry Chang and the members of the House Higher Education Committee

I am submitting my testimony on the proposed bill (HB 3436) for providing funds for UH facilities that will be discussed at a hearing on Tuesday, Feb 5 at 2 p.m. in the Capital Room 309. I am an alumni of the university and a former UH athlete that currently resides in Southern California. I still have a strong connection to the state and the University of Hawaii due to the opportunity I was given to attend UH Manoa as well as represent the football team. For all of us who have attended UH, we know there is something special about the school and recognize the important role it has in establishing credibility within the state of Hawaii as well as the increasing visibility the school has nationally and internationally. The approval of this bill has obvious benefits in meeting some long time needs with funding the deferred maintenance required within the University of Hawaii system. Just as significant is that the approval of this bill will also send a symbolic message of the state's commitment to the university system. This bill is about leadership and the message will communicate that the State House recognizes the value of the UH system as a key "face" of the state, but it will also help generate commitments from alumni and business to financially support the school based on the State Houses lead. I think this is an excellent opportunity for the State House to establish leadership and bring all the necessary players into accountability to not only recognize the value of the system but to expect results. Actions speak very loudly and passage of this bill is one of the necessary first actions to take with several more still required.

HEDtestimony

From: Greg Braun [wgregbraun@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 7:43 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: HB3436

Rep. Jerry Chang
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Rep. Chang

As a University of Hawaii-Hilo graduate and the parent of a son who attended UH Manoa I am shocked by the deterioration of Hawai'i's main University campus.

A story my son often tells: Several years ago while housed in one of the tower dorms he would ride up and down on rattling elevators that were operating almost two years after their inspection date had expired.

This is the 100th year of this great Institution and for too long it's infrastructure has been ignored. If we as a state are going to attract the best of the best, from the top researchers to the top student athletics, we must start with a campus that welcomes its incoming students and teachers with well maintained structures and athletic facilities, not a crumbling facade.

The University of Hawaii football Warriors galvanized the whole state with their magical run to a BCS bowl game. But now with the national spotlight on UH, we the citizens of Hawaii are seeing the glaring inadequacies that all students, professors, coaches and administrators must deal with day to day on the Manoa campus. It is time to make it right!

I urge you to support HB3436

Sincerely

W. Gregory Braun

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HEDtestimony

From: Liz Hahn [liz@okauai.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 1:05 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: HB 3436

Chair Jerry Chang and the members of the House Higher Education Committee:

I am writing regarding HB 3436 which is being heard on Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309.

I am in favor of this Bill.

The recent successes of the University's Academic and Athletic Programs have drawn a great deal of attention to our University System throughout the islands. I feel that it is time to move forward and make the financial commitment to fulfill deferred maintenance projects and upgrade where possible, our UH facilities on all islands.

It is also time to look at improving the opportunities for the University to partner with private enterprise or mixed use customers to become self-sustaining where possible and advisable.

Thank you for considering these suggestions.

Aloha,

Elizabeth Hahn
Waimea, Kauai

HEDtestimony

From: Kodama, Diane [Diane.Kodama@m-e.aecom.com]

Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 7:50 AM

To: HEDtestimony

Subject: HB 3436 -- Bill provides funds for athletic and academic facilities at UH Manoa and the other nine UH campuses

I support this bill.

Diane Y. Kodama

Haunani Olds

From: Joshua Washum [washum@hawaii.edu]

Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 11:00 AM

To: HEDtestimony

Subject: to Chair Jerry Chang and the members of the House Higher Education Committee regarding bill HB 3436

Hello,

This email is in regards to bill HB 3436 being heard on Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309. I support this bill. Our University has been embarrassed enough. Why are we expanding while neglecting the core of our System?

Joshua Washum
HCC graduate
HPU graduate
Aiea resident
SAIC

HEDtestimony

From: big guy [like002cali@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 6:56 AM

To: HEDtestimony

Cc: reptakaistaff@gmail.com; Lisa Vargas

Subject: (Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309) and the bill number (HB 3436).

It's been a interesting and rewarding period for University of Hawaii, State of Hawaii and especially the O'hana of this great state. I have not seen in the years of following University of Hawaii sports so much support and focus as I have now.

Don't stop the momentum, passing the bill with the funds needed for the upgrades and improvements to the lower campus is a necessity; just as the Koa furnishing, or expense accounts. The approval should be a quick "Yes" without reservations.

Mahalo for this opportunity to voice my thoughts on this subject.

Aloha

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HEDtestimony

From: Christopher Seabert [cseabert@tonygroup.com]
Sent: Monday, February 04, 2008 6:22 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: SUPPORT FOR HB 3436 FROM A FAMILY OF VOTERS

Aloha,

I would like to pledge our support for HB 3436 that occurs at Tuesday, February 5 at 2 p.m. in Capitol Room 309. It is very important to have this bill past. Our children will be going to UH Manoa in a few years and it is vital that we fix what needs to be done. Staying in Hawaii to get a education is what we all want but if facilities and safety of our STATE University is not up to standards- looking for alternative higher education Facilities may have to be looked at.

Another important aspect is our Athletic Dept. This year with so much UH sporting success has brought the State of Hawaii together and has brought pride for us all. My family even is planning on getting 8 new UH football season tickets. We all know and seen the run down facilities at UH and we need to do something now before its too late.

We put our faith in our Law makers in making the right decisions and we hope they do it with this bill.

Aloha and Thank you for your time,

Christopher Seabert
Michele Tagle
Matthew Seabert
Iwi Parker
Corliss Whitmore