

LATE TESTIMONY



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
MĀNOA

RL: 2156

SB 2356
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Senate Committee on Education
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

Joint Public Hearing – February 4, 2008
1:15 p.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 225

By
Denise Eby Konan, Department of Economics
Mary Tiles, Department of Philosophy and Chair of the Sustainability Council
Peter Rappa, Environmental Center

SB 2356 makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii to finance energy conservation and renewable energy matters to make Saunders Hall a campus and community model of sustainability and energy conservation. Our statement on this measure does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

The Environmental Center supports the intent of this bill. We strongly support the student initiative to reduce the amount of energy used by Saunders Hall on the UH Manoa (UHM) campus. Sustainable Saunders is a wonderful model for the behavioral modification side and the students, faculty and staff involved are doing a great job. In an ideal world they would get all the funds they need for retrofits. We applaud the Legislature for its interest in Sustainable Saunders.

Saunders Hall, however, is not the biggest energy users among campus buildings though it is probably the best documented. We would not like to see the funding of retrofits for Saunders Hall come at the expense of the repair and maintenance funds for other more energy intensive buildings. We ask the committees to keep in mind that UHM is devising a strategy to address energy use on campus and we need to stick to campus priorities and the plan that is being developed for tackling big ticket energy reduction measures. We suggest that the language be made flexible to include Saunders "and other high impact energy retrofits on the Manoa campus." This flexibility will allow campus energy planners to include Saunders amongst other energy saving projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I SYSTEM LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



SB 2356 Relating to the University of Hawai'i

WRITTEN TESTIMONY FOR THE
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senate Committee on Education

February 4, 2008 at 1:15 p.m.

by

Virginia S. Hinshaw , Chancellor
Richard A. Dubanoski, Dean, College of Social Sciences
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

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SB 2356 Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser, Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. Unfortunately, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa can only support the intent of the bill at this time because of our pressing priorities, such as our tremendous need for repairs and maintenance and health and safety issues, which are critical to our ability to perform our core mission for the State of Hawaii. We recognize you have many priorities and issues to weigh for the state. We are proud of the work of the sustainable Saunders project at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and thank you for your support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, we appreciate all interest in the University, and want to emphasize that we will be able to perform better in all arenas and best serve the state with support of the current campus priorities approved by the Board of Regents.