

Date: 02/05/2009

Committee: House Education/House
Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 1217 RELATING TO EDUCATION PROJECTS.

Purpose of Bill: Appropriates \$100,000,000 in general obligation bond funds for public school projects and \$50,000,000 for University of Hawaii projects. Allows the appropriation to be used to match federal funds appropriated for state capital improvement projects under any federal fiscal stimulus legislation.

Department's Position: The Department of Education strongly supports H.B. 1217. The department's capital improvements program (CIP) budget request for fiscal year 2010 totals \$342.8 million, which includes \$100 million for repair and maintenance. The \$100 million appropriated under this measure would address a substantial portion of our request. We also take this opportunity to encourage support for the balance of our budget request.

The bill sets forth a lapse date of June 30, 2011 for the \$100 million. We request that this date be amended to June 30, 2012 to align with the standard lapse date for fiscal year 2010 CIP appropriations.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education

and

House Committee on Education

February 5, 2009 at 2:00 PM

by

Brian K. Minaai

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HB 1217 – RELATING TO EDUCATION PROJECTS

Chairs Chang and Takumi, Vice Chairs Nakashima and Berg, and Members of the House Committees on Higher Education and Education:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 1217 – Relating to Education Projects. The University of Hawai'i strongly supports the intent of HB 1217, which proposes an appropriation in the amount of \$50 million to the University of Hawai'i for improvements to, and/or repair and maintenance of, University of Hawai'i instructional facilities.

The proposed \$50 million will greatly assist in the restoration of the University of Hawai'i's Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget for Fiscal Biennium 2009-2011, which consists of \$335 million for Capital Renewal and Deferred Maintenance (CRDM). Our current request of \$335 million is part of the University's six-year plan to eliminate our maintenance backlog. It should be noted that the Governor's CIP Budget Recommendations reduced the University's CRDM request for fiscal biennium 2009-2011 by sixty percent (-\$201 million). The impact of the Governor's lower funding proposal would result in a significant increase to our \$351 million maintenance backlog.

We understand that the intent of the legislation is to accelerate public construction contracts to benefit the State's economy. The University is excited to be an integral partner in this process, as it will greatly assist in meeting our capital renewal needs and to reduce our maintenance backlog.

We would like to note that HB 1217 includes a lapse date of June 30, 2011; however, we respectfully recommend that this date be extended to June 30, 2012, to be consistent with the State Executive Budget's CIP lapse date.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on HB 1217.