

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony of C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

SB 2695, SD1, HD1 (Proposed) Relating to Non-General Funds
Monday, March 29, 2010
7:00 pm
Conference Room 308

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP would like to comment on SB 2695, SD1, HD1 (Proposed) – Relating to Non-General Funds, which addresses the fiscal year 2009-2010 budget shortfall by transferring excess balances from certain special funds to the general funds.

PRP kindly request to preserve the \$15 million in special funds dedicated to the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii (CRCH). In our current economic crisis, state funding is more imperative than ever and we must not jeopardize any matching federal funding which is necessary for the construction of the new center. CRCH will help attract more researchers and physician and result in the generation of construction and other related jobs that are much needed in our State's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you on SB 2695, SD1, HD1 (Proposed) – Relating to Non-General Funds.

Dear Honorable Representatives,

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to testify. As a resident of the State and a Graduate and Employee of the University I am writing to implore you to seek alternative means to those in measure SB 2695.

While we are facing economic hardships with widespread implications, removing funds from the University has the potential to reduce our knowledge capital. Our State has a history of sacrificing long-term visions to satisfy short-term development. Continuing to invest in short-sighted programs provides our State with possible negative returns on investment.

By taking more funds away from the University you are liquidating Hawaii's knowledge capital, harming the long-term development of our workforce, our future problem solvers. This decision would take away from future generations' ability to navigate unforeseen economic, social and environmental problems. Without financial support towards education and innovation you are changing the course of the State's future by relying on cash assets. Hawaii has the potential to be an education destination.

Surely there are other creative means to stabilize our economy while we build our educational base.

These funds are not available for a short-sighted fix. They are an essential investment in our State, our Students and our universities development.

Thank you,

Lukas Sheild

LATE TESTIMONY

LATE TESTIMONY

Michael F. Doyle III

Testimony in opposition to S.B. No. 2695
S.D. 1 H.D. 1.
Monday, March 29, 2010

My name is Michael Doyle and I am currently a student at UH West Oahu.

I have come here tonight to testify in opposition to S.B. 2695 H.D. 1.

It is unacceptable to cut any amount of support for education. If a society does not support its education, then it does not support its future. Education is the backbone of any economy. Without fully supporting a quality education, we are not giving ourselves or our children the tools that are needed to survive in this rapidly changing world. Without a strong education system, we can't foster the new ideas that students can bring to solve the challenges we will face in the future.

I have with me a petition that our student organization Defend Hawaii's Education began circulating today at Leeward Community College and UH West Oahu. In one day we collected over 500 signatures from students on the Leeward side who oppose any cuts to education.

I am here for the many students who told me that they have to work multiple jobs to pay for their education themselves. Some students will

take semesters off from school just to work and save enough money to pay for their next semester. Others have had to make the decision of joining the military just to pay for school.

Cutting more money now will only lead to further increases in tuition, and with the cuts that have already been ~~made~~ implemented, the school has been forced to ~~cut~~ cut classes, programs, faculty and other staff. At the same time, enrollment is going up; so at this rate it is going to be too crowded and too expensive for a lot of people to finish school here. For some, this is already a reality.

I cannot accept this.

Instead of cutting funds to education we should be putting more funding behind it.

We will be continuing to circulate our petition among all U.H. campuses to raise student awareness of the state's disregard for our future.

Thank You.

Michael P. Doyle III


FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2010 7:33 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: friberg@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for SB2695 on 3/29/2010 7:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 3/29/2010 7:00:00 PM SB2695

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nathan J. Friberg
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: friberg@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 3/29/2010

LATE TESTIMONY

Comments:

I am opposed to the SB2695, HD1 proposal to drastically reduce state funding to the University of Hawaii. I am a graduate student at UHM and have greatly benefited from several research, grant, general and special funds that the state of Hawaii has contributed to. I appreciate the need to reduce expenditures at every level during these tenuous economic times. However, I believe that alternative proposals need to be considered as drastically reducing university monies received from the state of Hawaii will have serious negative economic, social and academic consequences that will severely damage our community as a whole. I was only notified of the proposed actions associated with this bill today, but I would greatly appreciate more consideration and open discourse on this matter before action is taken. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, NJF