

LATE TESTIMONY



Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

NAMI, P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701

E-mail: bramosrazon@aol.com

Testimony in Strong Support of HB2053 and HB1674
House Committee on Education
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309
January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education, Hawai'i State Legislature
From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, President, NAMI
Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

Report Title: UH; Waiver of Nonresident Tuition; Eligibility for Scholarships and Financial Aid

Dear Chair Scott Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

My name is Beatrice Ramos-Razon. As the founder and president of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.), I am proud to submit our strong support for these bills. NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people through education, mentoring, advocacy and service. NAMI has been a mentor to minority and underrepresented students in University of Hawai'i Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity programs engaged in community-based participatory research to address health disparities.

The Hawai'i DREAM Act is vital to Hawai'i's successful economic turnaround. Our state government and economy have the most to gain with highly educated, highly skilled, and highly motivated students, who can help navigate Hawai'i toward a resilient recovery. For students wishing to attain higher education, but whose status is undocumented non-citizen, it is devastating to learn that their undocumented status has drastic legal consequences that make them ineligible for resident tuition and financial aid. These bills are a step in the right direction for such Hawai'i's students.

With these bills enacted, one day soon, these affected students will be a part of Hawai'i's leaders in diverse fields. Thank you for this opportunity to testify and for hearing these bills.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 11:45 PM
To: HEDtestimony,
Cc: dasgupta@way.net
Subject: Testimony for HB1674 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

Testimony for HED 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM HB1674

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Monisha Das Gupta
Organization: Hawaii Coalition for Immigration Reform
E-mail: dasgupta@way.net
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:

I am associate professor in ethnic studies and women's studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and my area of research expertise is in U.S. immigration policy. My area of study has drawn me into addressing policies that improve the lives of migrants in the United States. Since 2010, I have been a member of the Hawaii Coalition for Immigration Reform. I am writing in strong support of HB 1674 to grant in-state tuition to undocumented high school students who are bound for the state university system. These students often have to shelve their dream of attending college because they cannot afford the prohibitive out-of-state tuition, which they are currently charged. In the course of my research on newcomer immigrant communities in the state of Hawaii, I have come across such cases, including one case that involved a U.S.-born citizen, who was a minor (under 19 years of age) at the time of his admission. He was unable to attend college because his undocumented parents could not establish residency, and, therefore could not prove their child's eligibility for in-state tuition at a community college. I have been told of students who grew up in Hawaii but were forced to return to their parents' homeland because they saw no future for themselves after graduating from high school.

As the proposed bill states, it will give these young women and men the opportunity "to realize their potential as productive members of society" instead of living in limbo. The college-bound students who will benefit from the bill are youth who have attended our high schools, have been successful, and are motivated to pursue higher education. These are students who have grown up here. They are among those we consider to be our neighbors, members of our families and congregations, and friends of our children. They are an intrinsic part of our social fabric in this state.

The bill, in my view as an educator at a public university, executes the spirit of public higher education by expanding access to quality and affordable education, and ensuring tuition equity.

To make the access to college education concrete, I recommend that the bill include language about advising at the high school level, and training of staff at the university admissions office so that undocumented students become aware of their eligibility, and are encouraged to attend college.

By permitting students who do not have immigration status to become eligible for in-state tuition, Hawaii will join twelve other states in the nation - California, Connecticut, Illinois, Kansas, Maryland, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin. Since 2001, states have increasingly utilized the authority they have to grant state benefits to those who are undocumented in order to tap into a pool of talent and human resources that these students represent. They have stepped into the breach created by the lack of political will at the federal level to pass what is known as the DREAM Act that creates a pathway for college-bound immigrant youth to legalize their status. The

Congressional delegation from Hawaii has consistently and strongly supported the DREAM Act. Our state legislators will be in step with our Congressional representatives' recognition that DREAMers are valued members of our society, and their inclusion reflects the ethos of our state, the cultural diversity and economic growth of which has been fueled by multiple waves of migration. I urge you to pass this bill. It will align Hawaii with other states that have given some hope to young people who are extraordinarily courageous and committed to making the life for themselves that their parents had dreamed they would.

LATE TESTIMONY



HAWAI'I FRIENDS OF CIVIL RIGHTS
3432 B-1 Kalihi St. Honolulu, Hi 96819

January 31, 2012

TO: Chair Nishimoto and members of the Higher Education
Committee

FROM: Amy Agbayani and Faye Kennedy Co-chairs

RE: HB 2053 Relating to UH and HB 1674

I am testifying as a private citizen and co-chair the Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights and I do not represent UH, my employer. HF CR supports policies, programs and individuals who are committed to civil rights, equal access and diversity. HF CR supports of HB ¹⁶⁷⁴2053 that would allow students who do not hold a lawful immigration status to pay resident tuition rates and eligible for various financial assistance. Under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, states have the authority to grant state and local public benefits to residents who do not have lawful immigration status.

We urge you as policy-makers for our state, to give these students a chance to become educated, productive members of our community. As an immigrant myself, I have great sympathy for the many barriers these foreign born students and their families may encounter. These students are already a part of our multi-ethnic community and I am confident that an investment in their education will benefit the university and our community.

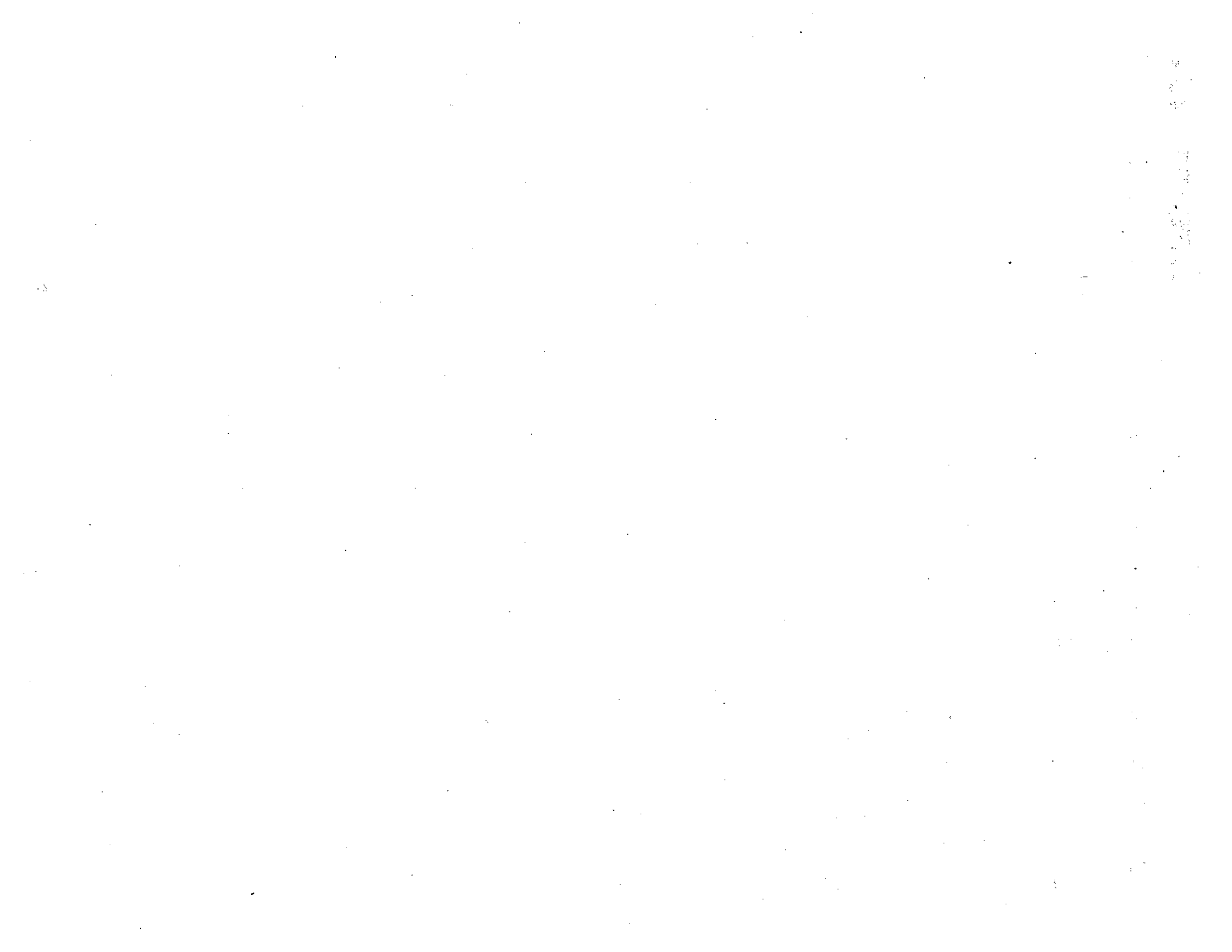
nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 5:24 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: cwatanabe@unitehere5.org
Subject: Testimony for HB1674 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

Testimony for HED 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM HB1674

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cade Watanabe
Organization: UNITE HERE Local 5
E-mail: cwatanabe@unitehere5.org
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:



Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

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c/o 728 Nunu St. · Kailua, HI 96734 · <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

Testimony in Strong Support of HB2053 and HB1674
House Committee on Education
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309
January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education, Hawai'i State Legislature
From: Charlene Cuaresma, Member, Filipino Coalition For Solidarity

Report Title: UH; Waiver of Nonresident Tuition; Eligibility for Scholarships and Financial Aid

Dear Chair Scott Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

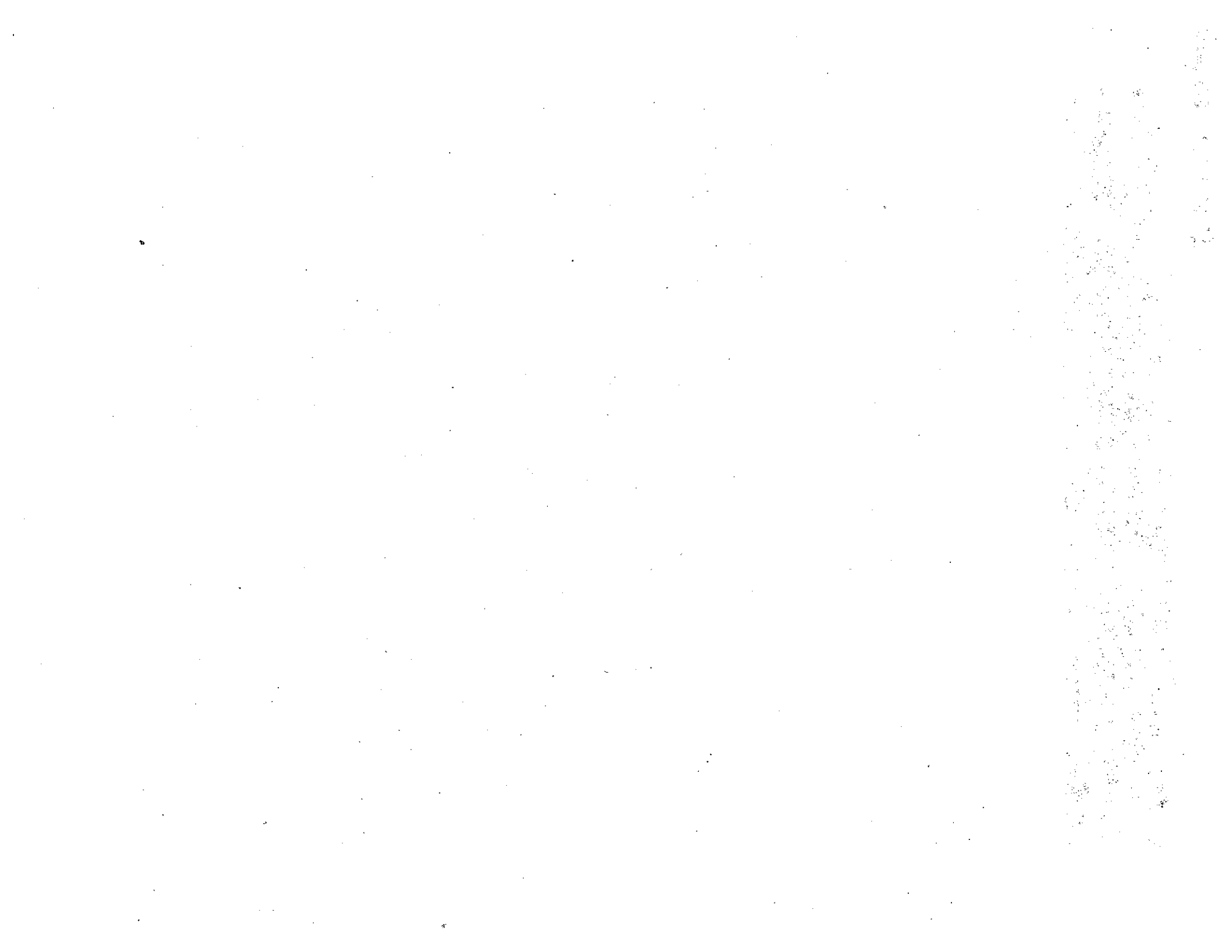
My name is Charlene Cuaresma, member of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. The Coalition strongly supports these bills. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action. The Coalition is committed to an ongoing resolution to address health disparities as a social justice issue.

Support is needed to remove barriers that prohibit enrollment in schools within the University of Hawai'i system for undocumented non-citizen Hawai'i students. The provisions of these bills would enable qualified students to pay resident tuition, apply for scholarships, and other programs and resources for student success.

More than generate much-needed revenue through in-state tuition, these students coming out of Hawai'i's high schools are at a crossroads. Passage of these bills will make a critical difference at a critical time when our state needs college and career ready young people to help steer our state into economic solvency and vitality. Thank you for hearing these bills and for the opportunity to share the views of our Filipino community.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma
Member
Filipino Coalition For Solidarity



Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

Testimony in Strong Support of HB2053 and HB1674
House Committee on Education
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309
January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education, Hawai'i State Legislature
From: Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

Report Title: UH; Waiver of Nonresident Tuition; Eligibility for Scholarships and Financial Aid

Dear Chair Scott Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

My name is Jake Manegdeg. I am proud to strongly support these bills. The League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

Even though the United States is comprised historically of generations of immigrants, today more than ever, there is a great need for fair immigration reform. These bills before you address the plight of young people who are caught in the middle. Hawai'i has its share of students whose undocumented status prohibits them from qualifying for resident tuition, scholarships, and other programs to support student achievement in the University of Hawai'i system.

Thank you for hearing these bills to explore how the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents resolve these problems for undocumented non-citizen students. Given this, HRS §304A-502 allows the Board of Regents, in its discretion, to enter into reciprocal agreements with the governments of other states and territories to allow for waiver of the differential between resident and non-resident tuition. In addition, it also allows the Board in its discretion to waive the differential for students from selected Pacific Island and Asian jurisdictions whose presence is deemed beneficial to the university system or the State as a whole. The law also allows the Board the discretion to waive the differential for non-residents who are members of the Hawai'i national guard and military reserves that train in Hawai'i.

I appreciate the opportunity to voice Filipino community views to address this education disparity. Hawai'i's young people need all the help we can give them to ensure that they are ready for the rigor of surviving and thriving now and through the 21st century. Please pass these bills.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg

President, Filipino American Citizens League

Filipinos for Affirmative Action

3432 B-1 Kālihi Street· Honolulu, HI 96819

**Testimony in Strong Support of
HB2053 and HB1674**

House Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.
Hawai'i State Legislature, House Conference Room 309

Measure Title: THE HAWAII DREAM ACT

Description: The present bills would amend current law to mandate that the Board waive the non-resident tuition differential for undocumented non-citizen students who have been present in the Hawai'i school systems (public or private) for at least three years and who have graduated from a Hawai'i public or private high school or obtained a GED, provided that the student files an affidavit stating that he or she has applied to "legalize the student's immigration status, or will file an application as soon as the student is eligible to do so."

To: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education

From: Agnes Malate, Board Member, Filipinos for Affirmative Action

As a board member of Filipinos for Affirmative Action, a proponent of civil rights, I submit strong support for HB2053 and HB1674.

I believe that passage of the Hawaii Dream Act will be of long-term benefit to the entire State of Hawaii, and not just the students themselves. Education is an investment that benefits all of society. The twentieth century has often been termed the "American Century," where our country established itself as a world leader in industry, science, music, literature, and critical thought. None of this could have happened without the massive investment in public education, and higher education, that provided millions of students with the unprecedented opportunity to develop their skills and innate powers to fully contribute to society's benefit. Engineers, scientists, doctors, writers, poets – the millions of educated individuals who made this country great – could not have accomplished such an incredible feat without the benefits provided by public education. The Internet itself was developed from research conducted by a public university professor, who himself was educated by public schools. Allowing all of Hawai'i's students, including DREAMers, to gain access to the education they need to fully contribute to society is an investment that will benefit all of Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

Agnes Malate

Filipinos for Affirmative Action board Member



UNITED FILIPINO COUNCIL OF HAWAII

P.O. BOX 498, Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0498

Testimony in Strong Support of HB2053 and HB1674

House Committee on Education

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309

January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Education, Hawai'i State Legislature
From: Lynn Gutierrez, President, United Filipino Council of Hawaii
Report Title: UH; Waiver of Nonresident Tuition; Eligibility for Scholarships and Financial Aid

Dear Chair Scott Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Education:

The United Filipino Council of Hawaii strongly supports both bills. I am the president of the United Filipino Council of Hawaii (UFCH). We are an umbrella organization with member civic groups from six island councils. UFCH membership is comprised of nearly 5,000 individual members.

I am a naturalized American citizen, as are most of our UFCH members. I am also a Hawai'i public school teacher with nearly forty years of experience to know the profound impact that higher education can make on a student's ability to overcome life adversities and to become a contributing member of his or her family and community.

UFCH understands that the present bills would amend current law to mandate that the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents waive the non-resident tuition differential for undocumented non-citizen students:

- 1) who have been present in the Hawai'i school systems (public or private) for at least three years,
- 2) who have graduated from a Hawai'i public or private high school or obtained a GED, provided that the student files an affidavit stating that he or she has applied to "legalize the student's immigration status, or will file an application as soon as the student is eligible to do so."

The bills do not state what would trigger a student's obligation to make an application for legalization of status in the future.

Passage of these bills would be a humanitarian gesture that would open the doors to an invisible, but vital segment of Hawai'i's youth to help us strengthen our society and economy. Thank you for the opportunity to provide UFCH support. Thank you for hearing these bills and for your consideration of its merits.

Sincerely,

Lynn Gutierrez, UFCH President



LATE TESTIMONY



OAHU FILIPINO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 17531 · Honolulu · Hawaii 96817

Testimony in Strong Support of HB2053 and HB1674

House Committee on Education

Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309

January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
House Committee on Education, Hawai'i State Legislature
From: Maria Etrata, President, Oahu Filipino Community Council
Report Title: UH; Waiver of Nonresident Tuition; Eligibility for Scholarships and Financial Aid

Dear Chair Scott Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

Please accept my regrets for this late testimony, as I just learned about this important hearing today. My name is Maria Etrata, president of the Oahu Filipino Community Council. OFCC is an umbrella organization that represents a network of non-profit civic groups with a unified vision to improve the lives of our Filipino communities.

OFCC respectfully asks that you pass these bills to enable undocumented youth, who meet the qualifications of the provisions under consideration, to access higher education at resident tuition rates, and to be eligible to apply for scholarships.

It is heartbreaking to see across the nation, as well as in Hawai'i, that students who come to the U.S. as children or babies with their parents from their country of origin suddenly discover that they are disenfranchised individuals, without the proper documentation, when they try to apply for a driver's license or submit applications for college and financial aid.

Hawai'i's undocumented, but highly motivated youth, aspire to "be somebody". They want to make our society a better place for all. Given this, they are keenly aware of the rights and privileges of U.S. citizenship, which many American people take for granted. In these times of economic austerity, we cannot afford not to support this Hawai'i Dream Act. With higher education and financial aid within their reach, these youth will be in a position to be of great help. Please consider using your power and influence to give them hope and a way to be a part of society's solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony, and for hearing these bills.

Sincerely,

Maria Etrata
President
Oahu Filipino Community Council

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Honorable Scott Nishimoto, Chair, Honorable Mark Nakashima, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education:

I strongly support HB 1674, and I respectfully request for your support as well.

The Hawai'i DREAM Act promotes individual responsibility by encouraging students who have been raised in Hawai'i to become responsible educated adults and productive members of our communities. These future citizens should be encouraged to become teachers, doctors, and engineers and productive members of our workforce. It is in the best interest of our state's economy to have an educated workforce to provide the innovation necessary to keep Hawai'i competitive in the global economy.

A study by the U.S Department of Labor found that immigrants that earned legal status experienced an increase in wages by approximately 15% five years after they obtained legal status. Furthermore, immigrants who arrived at an early age have higher earnings than those who did not and have higher level market returns. This would also be true for immigrant youth that are in this country and could benefit from this legislation. Higher incomes will increase consumer spending at the local, state and national levels, which also translate into new jobs.

The success of the future lies in the youth of today. The Hawai'i Dream Act of 2012 would be a great step toward meeting the goal for student access to our higher education system and increase our educated workforce population to rebuild and sustain our economy. I respectfully request your support for this important measure.

Sincerely,
April Bautista

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 10:35 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: wctanaka@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for ~~HB2053~~ on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM
HB 1674

Testimony for HED 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM HB2053

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Wayne Tanaka
Organization: Individual
E-mail: wctanaka@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:

To the Honorable Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Nakashima, and the members of the House Committee on Higher Education,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2053 and HB1674. Education is an investment in society, and providing meaningful access to higher education for hard-working and dedicated student DREAMers will only help to develop the engineers, doctors, scientists, philosophers, poets, and other educated individuals necessary for the long-term prosperity of Hawai'i nei. There is no just, fair, or socially beneficial reason to deny meaningful access to college for aspiring Hawai'i students who are educated in our high schools, steeped in local culture, and who only dream of contributing their fully developed skills and potential to Hawai'i's community.

Please help Hawai'i make a strong statement on recognizing the true value of our DREAMers (despite the misleading and disconcerting vitriol of mainland politics), by passing these bills out of your committee.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Wayne Tanaka, Esq.

President, Korean-American Bar Association of Hawai'i Advisory Committee Member, Hawai'i Immigrant Justice Center Member, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigration Reform 5th Generation Japanese American 2nd Generation Korean American

LATE TESTIMONY

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 11:07 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: oxynthes@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for ~~HB2053~~ on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

HB1674

Testimony for HED 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM HB2053

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Ryder Onopa
Organization: Individual
E-mail: oxynthes@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:

To the Honorable Chair Nishimoto, Vice-Chair Nakashima, and the members of the House Committee on Higher Education,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2053 and HB1674. As a kama'aina and UH medical student, I am aware of the essential role that education plays in allowing citizens to participate meaningfully in both the community and the healthcare industry. Simultaneously, I am alarmed by the looming physician and nursing shortage that threatens the islands (and the nation) over the next few decades.

As I hope you're aware, our medical school is unique in its efforts to encourage student physicians to remain in the islands after their education. For resident students, we remain one of the most affordable medical schools in the US, but for out-of-state students the costs are more than doubled. Our classes, at less than 70 students per year, are not large- and despite our commitment to the health of our island ohana, there is still a growing gap in the islands between care needed and care available.

So, then, it's all hands on deck; In order for my generation of physicians to provide care for the aging and retiring baby boomers, we urgently need bright, dedicated students to pursue their interests in biology and medicine. Moreover, we need a streamlining of the process to make sure that those who might otherwise face opposition, high costs or bureaucratic barriers are allowed and encouraged both to pursue a higher education and to remain in the islands as healthcare professionals.

With this in mind, the DREAM act would take a significant step toward allowing non-native students, who would otherwise be denied it due to their immigration status, the chance at a higher education and career in providing for the health of our islands. These students, many of whom come from precisely the demographics that need care most, are largely shut out of med school due to the cost as a non-resident: the DREAM act would remove this barrier, and could significantly impact the future of healthcare in the islands.

Please help Hawai'i make a strong statement on recognizing the true value of our DREAMers (despite the misleading and disconcerting vitriol of mainland politics), by passing these bills out of your committee.

LATE TESTIMONY

Chair Nishimoto and members the House Committee on Higher Education, thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HB1674, the Hawaii Dream Act.

As a national organization committed to advancing common-sense state immigration policies that expand opportunity for all residents, both immigrant and native-born, Progressive States Network strongly encourages the passage of HB 1674. This bill will dramatically expand access to higher education for Hawaii's talented high school students – including those who do not qualify as state residents and those who are undocumented – by allowing these students the opportunity to pay in-state tuition at Hawaii's colleges and universities. At a time when a college education is truly the gateway to navigating a still-sluggish economy, the potential for this bill to bolster Hawaii's economic development and ability to attract high-technology firms in the long and short term is unmistakable.

In an increasingly globally competitive world, a highly educated population is the surest route to broad prosperity. College educated workers earn more over the course of their lifetime, add more revenue to states and localities, and contribute significantly to our states' and nation's civic life. According to one crucial study, , the US workforce will face a **shortage of 16 million college educated adults** by 2025.ⁱ This gap is a challenge of the highest order for Hawaii and the nation's future productivity and workforce development horizon – one that proposals such as the Hawaii Dream Act can help address. . HB 1674 provides an intelligent, targeted way to meet that challenge while also responding to the growing demand for a college-educated workforce outlined by many innovative high-tech firms. Hawaii's ability to attract the companies of the future—high-technology firms and the innovation industry—is directly linked to the state's pool of talented, college-educated students to serve as a workforce for such firms. .

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, two-thirds of the occupations or industries projected to see the highest growth by 2018 will require a college degree.ⁱⁱ This is why Nike, Intel, and other global firms have voiced their support for tuition equity bills in Colorado and Oregon – because these companies would prefer to work with the immigrant talent in their backyard rather than search for the next Steve Jobs or Bill Gates outside the US.ⁱⁱⁱ

This workforce development argument also informs why many other states are going down this same path this year. To date in 2012, four states have already introduced tuition equity proposals. These bills, in addition to similar laws already enacted in fourteen other states, point to a growing consensus in statehouses across the country that the smartest way to develop human capital and attract dynamic industry: through expanding access to higher education for talented immigrant students. The issue routinely attracts bipartisan support—from labor groups and chambers of commerce alike.

Without the Hawaii Dream Act, the considerable investment Hawaii already commits toward the elementary and secondary education of these students would go to waste. The loss of this

investment and talent would be unconscionable even in times of fiscal health, but the state's current financial condition underlines the urgency behind this measure

This measure would also benefit Hawaii's budgetary bottom line in an immediate and lasting way by pumping money into state coffers from tuition fees and broadening the state's tax base. By creating a pipeline for highly-talented undocumented students to receive a college education, Hawaii will be preparing these students for high-paying careers that will put them on a path towards meaningfully contributing to the state's revenue stream. Developing this human capital will also allow the state to retain the talent it will need to attract 21st century innovation and industry to its shores.

The positive impact for Hawaii's University system is also worth considering: in the 2009-2010 academic year, Hawaii's 5,000 foreign students contributed \$116.8 million to the state's economy in tuition, fees, and living expenses^{iv}. Passing HB 1674 will expand the numbers of students eligible for the university system and greatly increase the resources available to it. In Colorado and Utah, for example, proposed tuition equity bills were expected to infuse over \$1 million in revenues into each state's university system.^v HB 1674 will dramatically expand the resources available for every Hawaiian student's college education without disadvantaging the enrollment prospects for native-born students. At a time when budget shortfalls and fiscal austerity threaten the meaningful education of all Hawaiians, HB1674 is truly a common-sense solution.

If passed, HB1674 will serve as a vitally important workforce development tool for the state. While simultaneously broadening the tax base and expanding resources for the University system, HB1674 will help educate and retain some of Hawaii's top talent, integrate deserving and talented undocumented students into the economy create the kind of workforce necessary to foster an innovative and vibrant Hawaii that is built to last.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify,

Suman Raghunathan

Director of Policy and Strategic Partnerships

Progressive States Network

ⁱ The Lumina Foundation, "[A Stronger Nation Through Higher Education](#)". February, 2009.

ⁱⁱ "[Help Wanted: Projects of Job and Education Requirements Through 2018](#)," Georgetown Center for Education and the Workforce. June, 2010.

ⁱⁱⁱ "[CEOs to Lawmakers: Back off Immigration](#)," Phoenix Business Journal. March 16, 2011.

^{iv} NAFSA, "[The Economic Benefits of International Education to the United States for the 2009-2010 Academic Year: A Statistical Analysis](#)."

^v "[State Revised Fiscal Impact to SB 126](#)," Colorado Legislative Council Staff Fiscal Note. February 22, 2011.