

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412
EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: House Committee on Higher Education

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 309

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 2053
Relating to the University of Hawaii

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. No. 2053.

The Office of Information Practices (OIP) takes no position on the substance of this bill, which would exempt students who are not legally Hawaii residents from paying nonresident tuition when they have gone to high school in Hawaii and met other conditions. OIP, however, seeks clarification of proposed section 304A-A(b), at bill page 2 lines 8-97.

This provision, which makes student information obtained in the implementation of the program confidential, would not allow public release of even aggregated statistical information about the students making use of the program. If this committee did not intend to bar release of even aggregated statistical information about students using the program, then OIP would recommend adding the phrase "individually identifiable," so that the provision would read "Individually identifiable student information obtained in the implementation of this section shall be held confidential."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
January 31, 2012 at 2:00 pm

by
Lui K. Hokoana
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Hawai'i System

HB2053 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Nakashima, and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying on behalf of the University of Hawai'i and its 10 campuses.

HB 2053 exempts certain University of Hawai'i students who attended and graduated from a Hawai'i high school, including those without lawful immigration status from paying nonresident tuition under certain conditions. It allows those students to receive scholarships from non-state funds and participate in financial aid programs. It also requires the Board of Regents to adopt rules. Limits relief allowed if a court finds any applicable statute unlawful.

The University supports the intent of this bill that is aligned with proposed Federal legislation known as the "Dream Act". The University is committed to providing access to a college education for all those who call Hawai'i home and want to improve themselves and their community.

The University is ready to develop policies and procedures to improve college access for the undocumented immigrant; consistent with Federal law, and would ask that any legislation in this area provide sufficient flexibility to enable such policies and procedures to be crafted to avoid potential conflicts between State and Federal laws, regulations, and policies. We also note that the bill is not limited to undocumented immigrants but would extend resident tuition to other students who meet the specified criteria, including former Hawai'i residents who have moved elsewhere and no longer satisfy the general residency criteria set forth in HRS section 304A-402.

Thank you for your support of the University and the opportunity to comment on this bill.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 9:26 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: jose@hawaiihispanicnews.org
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: Support HB2053.docx

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Jose Villa
Organization: Hawaii Hispanic News
E-mail: jose@hawaiihispanicnews.org
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:

I support [HB2053](#).

Our nation was started by immigrants fleeing their country in the hope of a better life for themselves and their families. Through their efforts, America became a beacon of hope, democracy and opportunity. That model was immortalized in the Emma Lazarus' poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Two-hundred and thirty-six years later, our nation is still viewed around the world as that beacon of hope and opportunity for a better life.

On a per capita basis, Hawaii has the largest concentrations of ethnic groups of any state in the nation. The majority of our state's residents can trace their roots – *and do so proudly* – to immigrants from scores of countries around the world. And, for that reason, Hawaii is viewed globally as a model of what ethnic diversity can achieve.

Realistically, we know there are many undocumented residents in Hawaii. It is my contention that if you took all the undocumented residents out of Chinatown, we'd have to close Chinatown. The same is true for the Filipino community, the Vietnamese community, the Samoan community, the Mexican community, etc. If America is a model of a successful nation built by immigrants, then Hawaii is a model for a successful state built by immigrants.

Many people came here originally without papers or overstayed visas. They worked hard towards that vision of hope and opportunity of a better life for themselves and their families. Their kids have grown up here, and while they may have visited their parents' country, they are viewed as foreigners -- Americans -- there. America is the only home they've ever known.

Due to the insistence many of their parents had on education, many of these students excelled in high school. And, for many, it wasn't until they tried to get into college that they discovered they are undocumented.

At that point, our society has two choices: 1) we can either give them an equal opportunity to get a quality education and use that education to improve our state and nation; or 2) we can relegate them to ending their academic careers with a high school diploma.

I would rather have them stocking shelves in a university library than stocking shelves in a corner grocery store. You can't improve your life -- and make significant contributions to our state's economy -- by reading the labels on the cans of chicken soup. For these reasons, I support [HB2053](#).

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 9:33 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: josevilla@latinbusinesshawaii.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: Support HB2053.docx

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Jose Villa
Organization: Latin Chamber of Commerce
E-mail: josevilla@latinbusinesshawaii.com Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:

I support [HB2053](#).

Our nation was started by immigrants fleeing their country in the hope of a better life for themselves and their families. Through their efforts, America became a beacon of hope, democracy and opportunity. That model was immortalized in the Emma Lazarus' poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Two-hundred and thirty-six years later, our nation is still viewed around the world as that beacon of hope and opportunity for a better life.

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Realistically, we know there are many undocumented residents in Hawaii. It is my contention that if you took all the undocumented residents out of Chinatown, we'd have to close Chinatown. The same is true for the Filipino community, the Vietnamese community, the Samoan community, the Mexican community, etc. If America is a model of a successful nation built by immigrants, then Hawaii is a model for a successful state built by immigrants.

Many people came here originally without papers or overstayed visas. They worked hard towards that vision of hope and opportunity of a better life for themselves and their families. Their kids have grown up here, and while they may have visited their parents' country, they are viewed as foreigners -- Americans – there. America is the only home they've ever known.

Due to the insistence many of their parents had on education, many of these students excelled in high school. And, for many, it wasn't until they tried to get into college that they discovered they are undocumented.

At that point, our society has two choices: 1) we can either give them an equal opportunity to get a quality education and use that education to improve our state and nation; or 2) we can relegate them to ending their academic careers with a high school diploma.

I would rather have them stocking shelves in a university library than stocking shelves in a corner grocery store. You can't improve your life -- and make significant contributions to our state's economy -- by reading the labels on the cans of chicken soup. For these reasons, I support [HB2053](#).

nakashima2 - Susie

From: Dr.John Heidel [jheidel@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 9:28 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Subject: Testimony for HB 2053 and HB 1674

To: House Higher Education Committee, Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
For: Hearing of HB 2053 and HB 1674 - Relating to the University of Hawaii
Date: Tuesday, January 31,2012, 2:00 pm
Place: State Capitol, Room 309
From: Rev. Dr. John R. Heidel, President, The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii

Thank you for holding this hearing on House Bill 2053 and House Bill 1674.

My name is John Heidel and I offer this testimony in strong support of HB 2053 and HB 1674. I'm a minister of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and began my ministry here in the islands as the Minister of Youth at Central Union Church in 1962 and then served as Chaplain of Punahou School for 32 years - retiring in 2001. Today I am representing The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii and the Hawaii Coalition for Immigration Reform.

I speak on behalf of many people who are members of a wide variety of faith traditions; Christian, Buddhist, Jewish, Moslem, Hindu and several others. We are all concerned about the situation facing many young adults in our community who are seeking a college education. Through no fault of their own, they have an immigration status that, under current law, greatly restricts their future. They have lived in the United States all their lives and they have become part of our culture; they are members of our community. Many of them attend one of our congregations.

As an investment in the education of our children is an investment in our community so is an investment in the education of these young adults.

We thank you for considering this significant legislation and urge the passage from this committee.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 10:08 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: stanbain@facehawaii.org
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM
Attachments: HB1674 & 2053.docx

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Rev. Stan Bain
Organization: FACE & Hawaii Coalition for Immigration Reform
E-mail: stanbain@facehawaii.org
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:
I will be available to present oral testimony.

My name is Stan Bain, I am a staff organizer for FACE with responsibility for organizing Hawai'i Coalition for Immigration Reform composed of 25 organizations committed to work for immigrant rights. I speak in support of House Bills 1674 and 2053 on behalf of the coalition.

The high school and university students affected by this bill were brought to Hawai'i at a very young age. They did not choose to settle here. Now Hawai'i is their home. English is their language. Our Hawaiian mix is their culture.

They have or will have successfully completed their elementary and high school education in Hawai'i schools—some graduating with high honors. To be able to obtain higher education degrees through the University of Hawai'i system by paying in-state tuition is an investment in their lives.

This legislation is an investment in the University of Hawai'i because more of these students would be able to attend UH. Their presence would enhance the caliber of the student mix as well as attract more funds to the university through financial aid and scholarship grants.

This legislation is an investment in the state of Hawai'i in the long run. The state has already invested in the public elementary and high school education of the students who benefit from this legislation. The state will benefit if they are able to remain in Hawai'i for their higher education and add their talent to the economic and cultural well being of Hawai'i nei beyond completion of their studies.

I urge you to pass these bills.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 9:18 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: chenwang@hawaii.edu
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Chen-Yen Wang
Organization: Hawaii Coalition for Immigration Reform
E-mail: chenwang@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TO: Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Chair
Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Vice Chair
Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Melba Bantay, Program Director
General Immigration & Refugee Services

DATE: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 (2:00 p.m., Room 309)

RE: Support of HB 2053, Relating to the University of Hawaii

Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Nakashima, and members of the House Committee on Higher Education. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 2053. My name is Melba Bantay and I am Program Director for the General Immigration & Refugee Services Program at Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH). Catholic Charities is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing services for immigrants and refugees for over 20 years.

Catholic Charities Hawaii is a member of The Hawai'i Coalition for Immigration Reform, which is an interdenominational coalition advocating for the passage of the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act.

Catholic Charities Hawaii strongly supports HB 2053 which will allow undocumented students attending Hawai'i's high schools to pursue higher education at the University of Hawai'i, without being subject to cost-prohibitive nonresident tuition rates and provides them the opportunity to apply for student financial aid. These are youth, who have lived in the United States for most of their lives and want nothing more than to be recognized for what they are, Americans. We believe this bill represents Hawaii's true values as an island culture, which welcomes diversity and fair treatment.

The students this bill will benefit are Hawai'i's students who are graduating from Hawaii high schools and have been raised in our local culture. Forcing these aspiring students to pay out-of-state tuition rates and not allowing them to apply for student financial aid will deny them the education they need to fulfill their dream of becoming contributing members of our community.

By passing this bill, Hawai'i will join the ranks of at least ten other states that have not been afraid to take the lead in recognizing the value of their DREAMers.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i asks for your support of HB 2053. If I can provide any further information, please feel free to contact me at 808-527-4711 or via email at mbantay@catholiccharitieshawaii.org. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.





Committee: Committee on Higher Education
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 2:00 p.m.
Place: Room 309
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in strong support of H.B. 2053,
Relating to the University of Hawaii

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

The ACLU strongly supports H.B. 2053, which will allow certain qualified young people who possess limitless potential to contribute to our society and provide them with a path to citizenship after higher education. Immigrants who have lived in the United States since their youth can acquire legal status by working hard and maintaining good moral character: nothing could be more consistent with American values.

States should grant all their resident students, regardless of immigration status, the right to attend public universities at an affordable rate. This bill would play a critical role in promoting fundamental fairness in access to public higher education.

This bill will promote two very important objectives: (1) the imperative of protecting the rights of vulnerable immigrant communities; and (2) the importance of access to higher education.

H.B. 2053 provides opportunities for the growing population of undocumented youth, without which they risk becoming a vulnerable underclass.

Nationally, almost one-third of immigrant children who are still in school live below the federal poverty line.¹ The inability of immigrants to obtain lawful status creates an “underclass” subject to exploitation, often unable or afraid to assert civil and constitutional rights. This is particularly dangerous for children who enter the country at a young age. In the words of the Supreme Court, “the illegal alien of today may well be the legal alien of tomorrow . . . [W]ithout an education, these undocumented children, [a]lready disadvantaged as a result of poverty, lack of English-speaking ability, and undeniable racial prejudices, . . . will become permanently locked into the

¹ Jeanne Batalova & Margie McHugh, Migration Policy Institute, *DREAM v. Reality: An Analysis of Potential DREAM Act Beneficiaries* (July 2010), at 8, available at <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/DREAM-Insight-July2010.pdf>.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801
T: 808.522-5900
F: 808.522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

Hon. Rep. Nishimoto, Chair, HED Committee
and Members Thereof
January 31, 2012
Page 2 of 4

lowest socio-economic class.”² Allowing this large and growing group of individuals to remain in poverty without access to higher education is wrong for Hawaii.

Many of the undocumented individuals currently living in Hawaii have lived here for years or decades and have deep ties to our state. Particularly for those who were brought to Hawaii when they were children, these ties are often much stronger than those – if they exist at all – to their country of origin. In addition, many individuals are members of so-called “mixed” families where at least one member is a U.S. citizen or legal resident. These members of our communities are extremely vulnerable. They face daily reluctance to contact police and public safety officials; exposure to private exploitation and abuse; diminished or non-existent workplace safeguards; exclusion from public health programs; and fear of asserting their basic legal rights and protections.

Given this situation, the future is bleak for those brought to Hawaii as children by their parents without proper documentation. Current laws ensure that their dreams will always remain out of reach. Unlike the classmates they have grown up next to, pursuing a college education aren’t just a matter of working hard and achieving. Instead, they face many roadblocks in their path to success: crushing financial burdens, discriminatory enrollment policies, the inability to work, and the constantly-looming threat of deportation.

H.B. 2053 would protect these morally blameless young people from having their careers and lives stunted by their legal disabilities. The legislation creates a powerful imperative for recipients of conditional lawful status either to pursue a college education. It also encourages immigrant children now enrolled in elementary or secondary school to obtain a high-school diploma and further education. Thus, H.B. 2053 will significantly ameliorate the costly economic and social detriments associated with maintaining a large population of individuals in Hawaii who are part of our communities but prevented from using their talents fully to serve our country.

By encouraging high-achieving young people to focus on their studies, the legislation will allow these individuals who are part of our communities’ fabric to regularize their status and thereby benefit our economy.

² *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202, 207-08 (1982).

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Hon. Rep. Nishimoto, Chair, HED Committee
and Members Thereof
January 31, 2012
Page 3 of 4

Hawaii should recognize the value of higher education for all of its residents.

Higher education is critical for young people to achieve their fullest potential. Immigrant students covered by H.B. 2053 have limitless potential. They are often talented high achievers who grew up in Hawaii and overcame challenging odds to graduate from high school and secure admission to a public university. However, financing a college education is particularly difficult for undocumented youth because they are ineligible to receive federal financial aid or loans under current federal law. Even at relatively affordable public universities, undocumented students in most states are often charged out-of-state tuition rates, which are prohibitively expensive for most immigrant families. This effectively blocks many undocumented youth from all higher education other than community or junior colleges, leading to serious inequality of educational opportunities.

Several states³ have enacted laws which make public universities equally accessible to all students graduating from their secondary schools. In enacting equal education laws, these states remove economic impediments to high school graduates pursuing higher education and decline to penalize children who were brought to the United States at a young age by their parents. In addition, these states recognize that a well-educated population leads to increased earning power which then generates higher income, sales, and property taxes. This in turn stimulates economic growth for all participants in the state's economies, while increasing the nation's competitiveness in the global economy.

Despite their manifold benefits, tuition equality laws have been subject to unsuccessful legal challenges. The national ACLU Immigrant Rights Project and ACLU affiliates have been involved in defending these laws in both federal and state courts. In December 2007, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit dismissed a challenge to a Kansas law on procedural grounds,⁴ and the Supreme Court denied certiorari.⁵ In November 2010, the California Supreme Court unanimously upheld California's law.⁶ That case, *Martinez v. Regents of the University of California*, is the first state supreme court decision to address challenges to tuition equality laws on the merits.⁷ Talented, motivated young people who wish to serve their communities and build a future in the United States that has been their long-term home should be permitted to do so, in order to benefit

³ California, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Texas, Washington, Utah, New York, Wisconsin, and Maryland.

⁴ *Day v. Bond*, 500 F.3d 1127 (10th Cir. 2007).

⁵ *Day v. Bond*, 128 S. Ct. 2987 (2008).

⁶ *Martinez, et al. v. Regents of the University of California*, 198 P.3d 1 (Cal. 2008).

⁷ Certiorari was recently denied. *Martinez, et al. v. Regents of the University of California*, 563 U.S. ___, 79 U.S.L.W. 3494 (U.S. June 6, 2011).

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Hon. Rep. Nishimoto, Chair, HED Committee
and Members Thereof
January 31, 2012
Page 4 of 4

them and all Americans. The ideals of fairness and equal opportunity on which this nation has thrived are on the side of H.B. 2053, which offers students a chance to harness their capabilities to endeavors and achievements that will help our state grow.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 40 years.

Sincerely,

Laurie A. Temple
Staff Attorney

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801
T: 808.522-5900
F: 808.522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

I support HB 1674 and HB 2053. As a D.O.E High School teacher, I've had the opportunity to interact directly with hundreds of Hawaii students. Many of those students came here from a very young age and Hawaii is the only place they know. This is their country, this is their state, and they embrace the Hawaiian culture and values. Many of them are high-achieving students who unfortunately won't be able to afford to pay out of state tuition. These students very often face many challenges, and by giving them the opportunity of an education we are helping to make a positive impact not only in their lives, but in our state, and in the world. Everyone deserves the opportunity to prosper and to dream of better things, and I hope one day we can say that "no student was left behind".

Thank you,

Marcela Alvarez Flores

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 1:31 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: zi6020@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: chris cramer
Organization: Individual
E-mail: zi6020@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:

I support this bill to help students attain higher education. This will help our community as well as the students.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 8:59 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: hermanhstern@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Herman H. Stern
Organization: Individual
E-mail: hermanhstern@msn.com
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:

Hawai'i should be a leader in recognizing the value of all immigrants.

Hawai'i has a unique history that should greatly inform our perspective on the true value of our immigrant population. Our immigration history - and the struggles of our immigrant ancestors -- has resulted in some of the richest, most diverse, and most socially integrated communities found anywhere in the world. By recognizing the societal value of Hawai'i's dedicated DREAMers, this bill both honors the work of our immigrant ancestors, as well as maintains the values that have given Hawai'i's communities their dignity, pride, and strength. By passing this bill, Hawai'i will join the ranks of twelve other states who have not been afraid to take the lead in recognizing the value of their DREAMers, notwithstanding divisive and misleading anti-immigrant rhetoric.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: HEDtestimony
Subject: FW: RE Your Email Testimony on HB 1674 & HB 2053

From: Herman H. Stern [<mailto:hermanhstern@msn.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 9:30 AM
To: nakashima2 - Susie
Subject: Re: RE Your Email Testimony on HB 1674 & HB 2053

Thank you, I support both bills.

Herman Stern

From: nakashima2 - Susie
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 8:58 AM
To: <mailto:hermanhstern@msn.com>
Subject: RE Your Email Testimony on HB 1674 & HB 2053

Dear Mr. Stern:

Thank you for submitting your testimony via e-mail regarding **HB 1674** and **HB 2053**. I am writing to clarify your position on these two bills.

- For HB 1674 your comments indicate that you are in **support** of this bill, however the testifier position you selected says "**oppose**".
- For HB 2053 your comments also indicate that you are in **support** of this bill, but there was **no testifier position selected**.

Please reply to this email by 4:00 p.m. today if you wish to clarify your positions, otherwise I will categorize your positions on both bills as being **in support**.

Thank you again for your testimony. We appreciate your participation in this hearing process.

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2012 11:42 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: c2paul@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Paul Chandler
Organization: Individual
E-mail: c2paul@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/29/2012

Comments:

Please support ALL of the students of Hawaii. Hawai'i's DREAMers deserve acceptance and inclusion. The students this bill will benefit are Hawai'i's students - educated in our high schools, steeped in local culture, and dreaming only of the opportunity to become fully contributing members of society. We don't want more brain drain by forcing these aspiring young people to come up with out-of-state tuition rates. We should not deny them an education that would help them become community leaders, health care professionals and other educated individuals that our society needs to continue to prosper and be successful.

Allowing more students to attend the University of Hawai'i will generate previously untapped tuition revenue.

Many of Hawai'i's DREAMers face considerable hardship in affording non-resident tuition rates - so much so that they decline to pursue any higher education, notwithstanding their otherwise great potential. Providing in-state tuition rates for these dedicated students will not only give them the opportunity they need to contribute in the future, but will also allow them to become tuition-paying - and revenue-generating -- students of the University of Hawai'i system.

Testimony in Support of the Bill **HB 2053**

This bill will ease the burden of UH tuition on immigrant children. They will still be paying a significant amount: the tuition this year at UH Mānoa is \$4,200 **each semester** for residents.

An immigrant child who graduates from a Hawai'i high school with a grade point average **sufficiently high to be admitted to UH Mānoa** has already shown considerable potential, and should be enabled to develop that potential more fully in higher education.

Who knows what honor such students will bring to Hawai'i and what value they will contribute to human knowledge and achievement. Two good examples come immediately to mind—**there are many, many more.**

- Toshiko Takaezu was born to Japanese immigrant parents in Pepeekeo, Hawaii, in 1922. ... She studied at the Honolulu Academy of Arts and at the University of Hawaii under Claude Horan from 1948 to 1951. ... She taught for ten years at the Cleveland Institute of Art, and then from 1967 to 1992, she taught at Princeton University, where she was awarded an honorary doctorate.
- Frances Kakugawa, who currently resides in Sacramento, was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii in Kapoho, which was demolished by lava when she was 18 years old. She has taught for many years in the Michigan and Hawai'i public school systems; conducted language arts workshops for teachers in Micronesia and in Hawai'i; and was a curriculum writer and lecturer for the University of Hawai'i. ... In 2002, she was recognized in the "Living Legacy: Outstanding Women of the 20th Century in Hawai'i" book.

Passage of this bill will help put and keep Hawai'i in the lead in the current "national non-debate" on repairing and improving our immigration system.

I strongly support it.

Byron W. Bender
Emeritus Professor, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
6710 Hawaii Kai Dr, Apt 1504
Honolulu, HI 96825

nakashima2 - Susie

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 1:43 AM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: shaglund@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2053 on 1/31/2012 2:00:00 PM

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

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: sue haglund
Organization: Individual
E-mail: shaglund@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/30/2012

Comments:

I strongly support HB 2053. This piece of legislation is important for the State of Hawaii and for undocumented minors who attend and are graduates of Hawaii's public and private schools.

Since 2001, there have been twelve states who passed a State version of the Dream Act. This is a bill that has economic benefits to the University of Hawaii and to the state of Hawaii.

University of Hawaii benefits economically from this bill by providing access to higher education to students. Students can have access to education at an affordable cost by paying in-state tuition. This act creates and generates an opportunity for a higher student enrollment from a population currently residing in the State of Hawaii who currently cannot access education because they are expected to pay out-of-state tuition. They are expect to pay out-of-state tuition because residency cannot be established because they or their parents are undocumented, regardless if they resided in Hawaii for years and are Hawaii high school graduates.

Currently 2011-2012 University of Hawaii at Manoa Undergraduate for Regular Semester as "Resident" pays 4,200 (campus-based student fees not included in this cost. However, Undergraduate for Regular Semester as "NonResident" pays 11,616 (campus-based student fees not included in this number cost)

Thus, the difference for Undergraduate at UH-Manoa for this current 2011-2012 is 7,416.

This, as a result, makes access to higher education unattainable due to the affordability costs.

Yet what is worst is the rising cost of tuition for the next five years across the entire University of Hawaii system.

With the rising cost of tuition effective FALL 2012

ACADEMIC 2012-2013--UH-MANOA TUITION (excluding Campus-based Student Fees) Undergraduate Resident to pay: 4,332 Undergraduate NonResident to pay: 12,456 The projected difference for academic Regular Tuition Schedule for 2012-2013 is 8,124.

So how does this benefit the University of Hawaii? Make access to education affordable to an untapped population who want to pursue a college education at the rate of in-state tuition, then you generate an educated skilled labor workforce from scientists to entrepreneurs that

will generate untapped revenue for the State of Hawaii because of the opportunity to access higher education at an affordable cost.

My only recommendation of change in HB2053 is to make this bill effective July 2, 2012 and eligibility to receive scholarship from nonstate funds be effective FALL 2013-2014, rather than Fall 2014-2015.

Thank You.