



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
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by

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and

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HB 2633: Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Making an Appropriation for the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Campus Center Complex

The Mānoa campus of the University of Hawai'i has a major goal to significantly improve the buildings and grounds of our campus in order to improve the student experience. Additional funding for renovation and expansion of the campus center will contribute significantly to our goal to increase the quality of the student experience.

Improvements in the campus center will allow us to meet the changing needs of our students and the student organizations by allowing for more study, meeting and one-on-one interaction areas. Either through surveys or through our personal contacts with our students, the message is clear that our students are desirous of improvements to the campus center.

Because of the age of the building, we feel that this is an opportune time to make the changes necessary to meet the needs of our new students. UH Mānoa seeks to be the "Destination of Choice" for Hawai'i students. Improving our physical plant contributes to meeting that goal.

These improvements to the campus center will also allow us to use the facility for additional activities. We expect to be able to expand our opportunities to sponsor large meetings and conferences. The renovation of our housing accommodations, combined with additional and improved meeting spaces, should allow us to expand our revenue streams from non-UH conferences.

That the legislature would consider providing these funds makes us optimistic as we review our strategic plan for the campus. We look forward to working with the legislature to provide additional funds for all of the building and renovation needs on our campus.

We support the intent of this legislation provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget.