

SB 603

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 603

January 31, 2013

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Senate Bill No. 603 authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of retiring the revenue bond debt incurred by the University of Hawaii (UH) for the UH Manoa Campus Center renovation and addition project pursuant to Act 213, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, as amended by Act 158, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008.

The Department opposes this bill. We do not believe that it is prudent for the State to issue general obligation bonds to retire the revenue bond debt of the UH for which the UH has revenues pledged and available for the repayment of these bonds. The University and the State of Hawaii determined and decided at the time of issuance that the University had sufficient revenue to support these types of bonds. Furthermore, there are a number of issues and concerns that make funding with general obligation bonds not practical under this approach. First, the UH revenue bonds issued for the campus center renovations were issued with durations of up to 30 years in 2010. The bonds were issued with a 10-year call feature – meaning, they are not callable or redeemable until 2020. As a result, the State would incur a substantial amount of negative carrying cost by having to issue GO bonds in the fiscal biennium 2014-2015 to have funds available to make the annual debt service payments due on the UH revenue bonds and pay off the remaining balance of the UH revenue bonds in 2020. Furthermore, these bonds were

issued by the university through the Build America Bonds (BABs) program. The BAB's program was a federal-subsidized American Recovery Act stimulus program that provides 35% interest subsidy from the federal government. If these bonds are refinanced to general obligation bonds, the State will not benefit from the 35% interest subsidy from the federal government currently being provided to the UH for the repayment of the BABs. Lastly, the State will have to utilize GO bond proceeds to fund an escrow account to retire the UH revenue bond debt and provide funds to cover all debt-service payments for each year prior to 2020. That means that the State will likely have to sell more general obligation bonds than for the amount of revenue bonds outstanding. This would be an increased debt burden on the State and alleviate debt service coverage from UH.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM
Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
January 31, 2013 at 2:45 PM
by
Francisco Hernandez, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor for Students
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

SB 603 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahele and members of the committee:

The UH Mānoa Campus Center renovation project is important to current and future students as the campus seeks to provide a welcoming environment that provides opportunities for recreation, student leadership, community-building and co-curricular activities that will enrich the student experience.

The renovated UH Mānoa Campus Center will be the hub of extra-curricular activities that will allow our students to expand their college experiences and increase their skills outside of the classroom.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports the intent of the bill provided it does not adversely affect our UH priorities as set in our budget request.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Carl H. Furutani

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 603. I am currently an employee of the University of Hawaii and serve as Associate Director of Student Recreation Services at the Manoa campus. I am offering this testimony on behalf of the students and colleagues in our department. I write in support of SB 603.

In the heart of the Campus Center Complex is the Warrior Recreation Center that is in the final stages of completion. This with the Student Union serves as the main meeting place for educational, wellness, recreational, and cultural activities. The Campus Center offers a number of important services and programs that can be found nowhere else on the UHM campus. We are proud of our programs being student run; giving the students an out of classroom experience to enhance their education.

The retirement of the revenue bonds will provide the Campus Center with financial opportunities to continue and expand their services and programs well into the future without raising student fees. This will also allow Campus Center an opportunity for renovation, modernization and upgrading of its structural infrastructure (floors, meeting rooms, electrical, telecommunications, computing capabilities, etc) to be able to meet the needs of the students. This request is seen as paramount to providing an enriching educational experience for students.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 603.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Kahale and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB603. My name is Lloyd Hisaka and I serve as the Director of Student Recreation Services at the Manoa campus. I am offering this testimony in support of SB 603.

As the Warrior Recreation Center at the Campus Center nears completion, the students at the University of Hawaii @ Manoa will realize the culmination of a ten-year effort by students to revitalize the Campus Center Complex. With the growth of the UHM Athletic program many of the recreational facilities in the Lower Campus are no longer available or available only on a limited basis to students. The opening of the Warrior Recreation Center along with the many renovation efforts at the Campus Center Complex will provide the additional venues for student recreation. Many of the learning activities students can experience in the Complex will now truly meet the leadership, educational, wellness, recreational and cultural needs of our student body. In the past, many of these student experiences could not be fully met.

The retirement of the revenue bonds will provide the Campus Center with the financial boost it needs to continue and expand services and programs without raising student fees. The funds which would be used to cover the revenue bond will enable us to provide the kind of new programs students' desire. In addition, these funds will provide for much needed renovations and modernization of the Campus Center's aging infrastructure. Competition to recruit the best and brightest students to Manoa requires that the Campus Center, the living room of the Campus, continues to grow and meet the ever changing student needs.

TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAII STATE SENATE – HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

For consideration and approval of Senate Bill 603

By

Shawn R. Kyono

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GO BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 603.

I currently serve as the Associate Director of Student Life Business Services at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Our unit works with the Campus Center Board to steward and maintain the student life complex, which includes Campus Center, Hemenway Hall, and the new Recreation Center that is under construction.

We have been fortunate that the Campus Center Board has had the vision to improve and expand their facilities over the past few years. With the support of the state legislature, the projects that have been completed so far have allowed our programs and service units to better serve our students in the heart/center/living room of campus for students, faculty/staff, community, and alumni can gather to study, meet, eat, and soon work out. Continued improvements to the student life complex ensure that our future leaders of this state have facilities and services they can call home in the heart of the Manoa campus.

Issuance of general obligation bonds to retire the revenue bonds will provide the Campus Center Board the support to continue improvements and upgrades to our aging facilities (Hemenway Hall, built in 1938 and Campus Center, built in 1974) without raising student fees. This allows them to improve access, technology, services, and programs to continue to provide an opportunity for our students to grow and develop outside the classroom, which includes over 200 students our department employs, providing them an opportunity to apply their education and develop work force skills.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SB 603.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By

Jill Shigano

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony on Senate Bill 603. I am the Fiscal Administrator with the UHM Student Life & Development Office and would like to give testimony in support of this bill.

The department encourages and plans activities, provides musical entertainment and events that I feel are important to the well-being of our students and encourages accomplishment at the collegiate level. The Campus Center complex provides the students with a place to study, meet, and interact with friends outside of the classroom environment.

The students have worked diligently, persistently and hard to make this Warrior Recreation Center a reality.

With this reality comes the need to maintain and upkeep the Warrior Recreation Center as a respectable, reputable first class center. The retiring of the revenue bond debt will allow the department to do this without having to increase student fees. The last thing we want is to burden the students with an increase in student fees. Additional funding will also enable the department to enhance and expand activities, programs and important services to the students at UH Manoa.

I humbly ask for your support of SB 603 and thank you again for giving me the opportunity to provide testimony.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Aaron Bain

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 603. I am currently an employee of the University of Hawaii at Manoa and serve as the Operations Coordinator of the Student Recreation Services Department. I am contributing support on behalf of the students and colleagues in our department.

The Campus Center Complex, which will also includes the new addition of the up and coming Warrior Recreation Center, serves to be the heart of the UH Manoa campus. Being the heart of the university we pride ourselves on providing the number one atmosphere on campus for enhancement of college life. Some of the services offered to students include leadership development, fitness, wellness, educational and cultural activities. All of our programs are student ran, which gives the opportunity for growth and development in becoming workforce ready.

The retirement of the revenue bonds will allow Campus Center the financial opportunities to sustain the services provided as well as expand on programs in the years to come without having financial burdens falling on the shoulders of students. Retirement of the revenue bond will also permit much needed renovations and upgrades to be made for the infrastructure of the buildings that will meet the needs of the students.

Mahalo again for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 603.

Thursday, January 31, 2013

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice-Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Matthew Nagata, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Campus Center Board

SUBJECT: Support of SB603, Relating to the University of Hawai'i

My name is Matthew Nagata and I am the President-Elect of the Campus Center Board at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I strongly support Senate Bill 603 and humbly ask for your support. The authorization and issuance of GO bonds to retire the debt incurred by the previous issuance of revenue bonds which funded the UH Mānoa Campus Center renovation and addition project would greatly benefit the students at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa as well as the entire campus community.

In 2005, the Campus Center Board (CCB) had the foresight to recognize the need to update and expand the Campus Center Complex facilities, services, and programs to better serve the students then, as well as the future. The master plan for the project has eight (8) phases, each targeting a specific area or service in the complex.

Retiring the revenue bonds and converting them to GO bonds will empower the Campus Center Complex to continue improving and transforming student life facilities at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Additionally, absolving the debt services burden from the University of Hawaii and the fee paying students will permit the responsible and sustainable continuation of the CCRE project, Hemenway Hall improvements, and general Campus Center renovations. Elimination of future debt service payments will allow for future renovation and associated operating costs to be sustainably funded without the need for a foreseeable student fee increase.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today and please support SB603, the conversion of the University of Hawai'i's revenue bonds to GO bonds.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Michael Ige

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

I am honored to be able to submit testimony on SB 603 and I thank you for this opportunity. As a student employee and representative of the University of Hawaii Student Recreation Services, I fully support SB 606.

I know from personal experience that the lower campus facilities are frequently used by the athletics teams and the students have a very limited opportunity to use them. The student fitness center is often filled and that makes it difficult to workout. With this new Warrior Recreation Center, these issues will be solved.

Additionally, the construction of this new recreational facility will create more jobs for students. This will allow them to develop as a person and prepare them for future careers. It will also provide the student workers with income to help cover University fees and cost of living.

As a full time student, I have personally seen tuition rise over the years and the retirement of the revenue bonds is incredibly important to all students. Campus Center is the main location of student activities and traffic and by providing expansion and renovation to this key area, the student body will flourish. Once again I thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion on SB 603.

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education

From: Alycia Kiyabu
University of Hawai'i at Manoa Campus Center Board Undergraduate Member.

Subject: Support for S.B. No. 603, Relating to the University of Hawai'i

My name is Alycia Kiyabu and I am currently an undergraduate student of the University of Hawaii at Manoa and member of the Campus Center Board (CCB), who functions as the governing body of the UH Manoa Student Union, Campus Center. CCB strives to provide our constituents with services, programs, and facilities, and it is because of CCB's mission that I am testifying in favor of the Senate Bill No. 603.

The Campus Center complex serves as the main communal hub for UH Manoa and its status as such can be maintained and also improved for future constituents with the expansion project. CCB recognizes that there is a growing need for higher quality facilities, services, and programs for our constituents; therefore we have enacted an eight phase plan to expand and improve the Campus Center complex.

The Senate Bill No. 603 will allow the Campus Center expansion project to be fully met without an unwanted fee increase for the UH Manoa students; otherwise our budget reserves are incapable of supporting the expansion project without a fee increase for the UH Manoa student body. By retiring the revenue bonds and converting them to GO bonds, CCB can further our plans of improvement, which includes but is not limited to Hemenway Hall repairs and improvement, Campus Center general repairs, repainting, and modernization. The S.B. 603 will allow us to better serve the needs of the students of UH Manoa and our (CCB's) efforts to become sustainable and serve as the governing body that provides the UH Community the resources they need to strive for excellence.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of the S.B. 603 today, and ask that you please support it as well. Thank you.

TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

By
Scott Collins

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 603. I am currently a student at the University of Hawaii and serve as a Graduate Assistant for Student Recreation Services at the Manoa campus. I am offering this testimony on behalf of the students in our department. I write in support of SB 603.

I am excited to see the completion of the new Warrior Recreation Center getting closer. I frequently use our current recreation facility and often become frustrated with limited equipment and amount of people in the facility during peak hours. The centralized location, new equipment, and increase in space is going to make exercising more convenient and enjoyable for all of the students attending this University.

The Warrior Recreation Center will also provide many opportunities for current and future student employees. Student Recreation Services is a student run organization, my time here has allowed me to gain valuable out of classroom experience which is vital for developing the necessary skills needed to be successful in the real world after I complete my academic education.

After being a student here at Manoa for over five years I have seen first hand how much tuition has increased over the recent years. The retirement of the revenue bonds will allow Campus Center to expand it's services and programs without adding to the increasing costs of the students. Campus Center currently has students sitting on the ground studying while waiting for their next class. I feel it is vital for the flagship University of not just the UH system but the entire state to have a centralized location on campus for students to properly study, socialize and congregate.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 603.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Elmer Lim

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on SB 603. I am currently a student employee of the University of Hawaii and serve as a Graduate Assistant for Student Recreation Services at the Manoa campus. I am offering this testimony on behalf of the students and colleagues in our department. I write in support of SB 603.

As a frequent user of our current facilities at lower campus, I know how frustrating it is to have to exercise in an overcrowded fitness center as enrollment has increased at UH. In addition to crowded facilities, I have noticed that students have limited access to other facilities (i.e. gymnasiums, studios, Multi-purpose rooms, etc.); therefore, the completion of the Warrior Recreation Center will greatly increase the ability of Student Recreation Services to meet the recreational needs of students at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

The Warrior Recreation Center also represents great opportunities for student employees. Throughout my tenure as an undergraduate and as a graduate assistant, the services and programs provided by Student Recreation Services and Campus Center has enhanced my learning outside of the classroom, and has enabled me to apply what I've learned in the classroom. As Campus Center continues to expand, it will enhance its ability to serve as a place for educational, recreational, and cultural activities. The expansion of Campus Center and the completion of The Warrior Recreation Center will also play a key role in providing many student employees with an opportunity to gain work experience while also providing a source of income to offset their costs of attendance at UH.

As a fee paying student, who has seen tuition nearly double since enrolling at the University of Hawaii Manoa in 2007, the retirement of the revenue bonds is significant. It allows Campus Center to expand its services and programs without raising student fees and will also allow Campus Center an opportunity for renovate and properly maintain its facilities, in order to meet the needs of the students. Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 603.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Adrienne M. Yamamoto

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 603. I am an undergraduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and have worked with Student Recreational Services (SRS) the past two years. I am offering this testimony on behalf of the students in our department in support of S.B. 603.

To me, working with SRS is no ordinary student job. It is an opportunity for me to experience real-world situations and lessons I never expected I would gain through this department. Being part of developing the Warrior Recreation Center is something I am very passionate about because as a student here, I believe this is what our university has needed for a long time as the student body increased. Also, working with SRS allowed me to hear other students' criticism of the facilities; many reasons why it is necessary to go forth with expanding Campus Center.

I have been using the current facilities at the Stan Sheriff Center since I was a freshman in 2008 and have seen it get busier every semester. It is understandable that many students are frustrated at how busy our fitness center gets – a line of people outside waiting to get in to exercise because we reach the capacity of 114 people. It is sometimes unbearable to exercise in this setting. Then, eventually we do not get that busy because people want to avoid waiting to use our facilities. As our university grows and expresses an increased demand for a bigger facility, it is our responsibility to act.

With the construction coming to its final stages, the matter of financing this expansion is brought to my attention. As a student, it would be unfortunate to see this project's financial obligation affect the students' fees. The retirement of the revenue bond is a significant hurdle we hope to overcome to maintain the integrity of this university. In my final semester, I am thankful for this chance to express my concern and passions for this expansion. I see the new Campus Center being a place where the university can come together and enjoy the opportunities we can offer. Having this improvement that the university community can see and experience without raising student fees will allow us unencumbered opportunities to continue to meet the needs of the university community.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. 603.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Justin Kitajima

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

I am grateful for the opportunity to provide a testimony for S.B. 603. As a 3rd year undergraduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and also the Co-Chair of the Recreation Sports Council, this testimony is to show my support for the bill.

Because of my busy schedule, I do not have time to cross Dole Street from Upper Campus to Lower Campus to get exercise. With the completion of the new Warrior Recreation Center on its way, it is a great feeling that I can fit in exercise easier than before.

Also being Co-Chair of the Recreation Sports Council, it will be a lot easier for us to run our events. The Recreation Sports Council is responsible for the Friday night athletic event that the University hosts. We provide students with a different event every Friday, unless it is a very popular event in which we have to extend the event to the next week as well. Some examples would be 3 on 3 Basketball or Indoor Pass Football. An example of our more popular events would be Dodgeball. Before we would have to make sure Athletics wasn't using the areas we need for our events, but now, with the new Recreation Center opening, there will no longer be any conflicts with Athletics.

As a student for the University of Hawaii at Manoa, it is sad to see the tuition rising every year. Therefore with S.B. 603, we can continue to provide students with a better, healthier environment and also can expand our current programs to meet the needs of the students.

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to write my testimony and also to read it.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Jacqueline Donovan

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony on S.B. 603. I am currently an undergraduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and serve as a Co-Chair for the Recreational Sports Council. I offer this testimony in support of S.B. No. 603.

Because I am involved in the Student Recreational Services department, I am familiar with conflicts that occur in the facilities we are currently occupying and the limitations of using other facilities on campus. It is nice to see that our facilities are expanding along with the needs of the University of Hawaii at Manoa community.

I am excited to see the day that the Warrior Recreation Center will open to the University of Hawaii at Manoa community and the public. I am eager for the many opportunities that workers and patrons will have to further their learning. I believe it will really enhance their college experience.

I strongly support S.B. No. 603 because it will allow Campus Center to expand and renovate and invest in the students' experience all without having to raise student fees.

Again, thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony.

Written Testimony
The Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, January 31, 2013 at 2:45 pm
By
Dr. Lori M. Ideta

SB 603
RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education, thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this measure.

While I am a proud three-time alum and employee of the University of Hawai'i, today, I present this written testimony as a private citizen.

I am in complete support of this measure that authorizes the issuance of GO bonds to retire the debt incurred by the previous issuance of revenue bonds to fund the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Campus Center renovation and addition project.

As you are well aware, this project to build a new recreation center adjacent to the current Campus Center and the effort to expand the current student union building and services, are due to the incredible efforts of our students. Students envisioned this project, students led the efforts, students worked with you to secure the funds, and students voted to voluntarily increase their own fees to support this project. We owe all of this success to our students.

I am privileged to be a faculty member and administrator at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Every day, I utilize the services within the Campus Center. I have watched the Center grow, deteriorate, and emerge over the years that I have been on campus. Nearly 30 years ago, I set foot on campus as a true freshman. I utilized the services of the Campus Center then. I utilize them still. I am thrilled to witness the transformation and growth in the physical building and expanded services.

Any efforts to reduce the financial burdens on students for the current Campus Center renovation would be very much appreciated. This will alleviate current financial stress and open up opportunities for future renovations and additions to create and even more vibrant student life on campus. Your investment in the University of Hawai'i will have a long lasting impact and will create a legacy of those who supported the students of higher education in our state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Higher Education

FROM: Michelle Tagorda
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Campus Center Board President

SUBJECT: Support for S.B. No. 603, Relating to the University of Hawai'i

Thank you for this opportunity to testify for S.B. No. 603. I am a current undergraduate student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa serving as the current Campus Center Board President. The Campus Center Board is the governing body of the Campus Center whose mission is to ensure that students and the campus community are provided with the facilities, programs and services to better campus life. I am testifying in favor of S.B. No. 603 which authorizes the issuance of GO bonds to retire the debt incurred by the previous issuance of revenue bonds to fund the Campus Center renovation and expansion project.

The Campus Center Complex is the gathering place for the campus community to meet, socialize, and study. It provides students with an environment that fosters various interests and promotes collaboration. The vision of the Campus Center renovation and expansion project entails the renovation of the existing Campus Center Complex and a new Student Recreation Center adjacent to the Campus Center. The project was created in response to the growing needs of the students for a gathering place that provides amenities that address their nutritional, recreational, and educational needs in one convenient location.

In order to meet the student's needs, improvement on the physical settings is needed to encourage students to utilize the different areas within the Campus Center Complex. Projects which include Hemenway Hall general repairs, Hemenway Hall reroofing, Campus Center spalling repair and repainting, and modernization of the Campus Center ballroom are crucial in ensuring that the facilities are maintained at a quality level. Our budget reserve cannot fully support the cost for these projects without an increase in our student fees. The retirement of the debt incurred will allow us to better provide for renovation and construction projects through our reserve. It will allow us to operate even with the growing costs that come with change, improvement, and new technologies. It will allow us to accomplish our goals of meeting the needs for these facilities in a more timely and effective manner.

By retiring the debt incurred, the students will not feel the burden of another increase in fees and the campus community can be better served with modernized facilities and services to meet the needs of the current and future generations to come. I strongly testify in support of S.B. No. 603. Thank you for this opportunity once again.

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By
Jason Higa

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 603. I am currently a graduate assistant of Student Recreation Services at the University of Hawaii Manoa. I am offering this testimony on behalf of the students in our department in support of S.B. 603.

As frequent user of our current facilities at lower campus, I know how frustrating it is to have to exercise in an overcrowded fitness center and to have such limited access to other facilities (i.e. gymnasiums, studios, etc.); so it is exciting to see the Warrior Recreation Center in its final stages of completion.

The Warrior Recreation Center represents great opportunities for its patrons and student employees. Throughout my tenure as an undergraduate and as a graduate assistant, the service and programs provided by Student Recreation Services and Campus Center has enhanced my learning outside of the classroom, and has enabled me to apply what I've learned in the classroom. As Campus Center continues to expand, it will enhance its ability to serve as a place for educational, recreational, and cultural activities.

As a fee paying student, who has seen tuition nearly double since enrolling at the University of Hawaii Manoa, the retirement of the revenue bonds is significant. It allows Campus Center to expand its services and programs without raising student fees and will also allow Campus Center an opportunity for renovate and properly maintain its facilities, in order to meet the needs of the students.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB 603.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 11:52 AM
To: HRETestimony
Cc: martinhk@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB603 on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM

SB603

Submitted on: 1/30/2013

Testimony for HRE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Martin Deabler	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly support SB 603.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

By: Wymin Chan

S.B. 603

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO RETIRE THE DEBT INCURRED BY THE PREVIOUS ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS TO FUND THE UH MANOA CAMPUS CENTER RENOVATION AND ADDITION PROJECT.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahale, and Members of the Committee:

I just want to take this opportunity to begin with my thanks; to thank the Members of the Committee for giving me a chance to voice my opinion. I am currently working as an assistant to Graduate Assistants Tahi Lim and Jason Higa.

Throughout my time working at the Rec Sports office, I often wondered “Why would people use the facilities at University of Hawai’i?” On the island of Hawai’i, there are several famous facilities that offer the same opportunities that the University of Hawai’i does, but with better equipment, modern ambience, and bigger facilities. Yet despite the certain benefits, there are countless students who continue to use what University of Hawai’i has to offer. Why is that? Of course cost is a big factor. Some of the modern facilities like 24 Hour Fitness have high membership fees that aren’t feasible to college students or some faculty members.

Maybe convenience is another reason. Convenience is something we live with today. Let us look at the ever growing technology of portability with portable phones that have the capability to be a mini computer. And so, students or faculty members wanting to use a building that offers physical and health benefits because it is close to where they live, work, or study is an understandable reason.

Perhaps, University of Hawai’i is a place that is special to a particular person; that exercising on campus offers a sense of nostalgia or holds a certain memory respective to that person.

With the new Warrior Recreation Center, the University of Hawai’i is able to continue to provide what it does but be able to offer the same quality as other modern facilities. The Warrior Recreation Center can still provide that certain individual with a cost benefit, or that certain individual with convenience; even the individual that has a more sentimental reason.

As a student and a worker, it is easy to see the betterment of retiring the revenue bonds. It will allow the University of Hawai'i Campus Center to provide all students and faculty members improved services, programs, and facilities without necessarily raising student fees. Expansion and improvement is an ongoing trend in our world today. And I believe with the retirement of the revenue bonds, this would be a step in the right direction to move with the world.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide my testimony on SB 603.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2013 12:37 AM
To: HRETestimony
Cc: waimeavalleygirl@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB603 on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM

SB603

Submitted on: 1/31/2013

Testimony for HRE on Jan 31, 2013 14:45PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bonnyjean Manini	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Due to my teaching schedule I am unable to be at the hearing in person to support SB603. Thank you to the legislators who have introduced this bill. By supporting this bill, you will be supporting UH Manoa students whose vision and advocacy have led the renovation project of the Campus Center facilities to enhance student life at the Manoa campus for close to 20,000 students. Please support SB603.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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