

SB 2131

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Report Title: University of Hawaii System; Veterans; Residency; Tuition; Waiver

Description: Requires the board of regents of the University of Hawaii to waive the nonresident tuition and fee differential for veterans of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy, who were honorably discharged.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HRE/PSM, WAM

Introducer(s): KAHELE, CHUN OAKLAND, ENGLISH, ESPERO, GALUTERIA, Dela Cruz, Shimabukuro, Slom, Tokuda



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Higher Education and
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 2:50pm, Conference Room 224
By Jan Javinar,
Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

SB2131 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chairs Taniguchi and Espero, Vice Chairs Kahele and Baker, and Members of the Committees:

SB 2131 proposes to require the University of Hawai'i to waive the nonresident tuition & fee differential for veterans of the five major branches of the US Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard).

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the outstanding service that military veterans have provided to our country, and we welcome the different life experiences they bring to the college classroom, adding to the diversity of our campuses. We do support the overall intent of this bill and concurrently, are concerned about its fiscal impact on the University.

The University currently waives payment of the nonresident tuition differential for active duty military members and their spouses as well as those in the National Guard or Reserves. For academic year 2012-2013, a total of 114 National Guard and Reserve personnel received this benefit which amounted to \$774,792 of University foregone revenue. Additionally, in the same period, a total of 1,853 active duty personnel received this benefit amounting to \$9,423,276 of University foregone revenue. For the University, the amount of funding caused by waiving the nonresident tuition & fee differential for veterans and active duty/reserve personnel would be significant.

Awarding the non-resident tuition differential for veterans discharged honorably from the Armed Forces will no doubt increase the numbers of student veterans on the University of Hawai'i campuses. The University would welcome additional legislative appropriations to cover the foregone revenue. Also, the University would need the assistance of a state office such as the Office of Veterans Services to "confirm" the veteran status of individuals desiring to avail themselves of the benefit proposed by this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The University supports the intent of this bill, provided that this support does not impact the University's budget priorities as articulated in its budget request. We appreciate your support of encouraging our veterans to improve themselves and the communities in which they reside through post-secondary education.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: mjgolo@email.phoenix.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 11:19:27 AM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support this bill.

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 to the Senate Committees on Higher Education and Public
Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs**

Tuesday, February 11, 2013

2:50 PM

Conference Room 224

RE: SENATE BILL 2131, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Taniguchi and Vice Chair Kahele, Chair Espero and Vice Chair Baker,
and members of the committees.

My name is Charles Ota and I am the Vice President for Military Affairs at
The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (The Chamber). I am here to state The
Chamber's *support* of Senate Bill 2131, Relating to The University of Hawaii.

The measure proposes to require the Board of Regents of the University of
Hawaii to waive the nonresident tuition and fee differential for veterans of the Air
Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy who were honorably
discharged.

The proposed measure will provide comparable waivers previously granted
to members of the Hawaii National Guard and members of the reserve
components of the above listed branches of the U.S. military. These veterans
served the nation in good standing and were honorably discharged.

In light of the above, we recommend approval of SB 2131.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



James M. Cavin
Executive Director, Hawai'i Alliance of Student Veterans
PSM/HRE;
February 11, 2014 2:50PM
SB2131

My name is James Cavin and I am the Executive Director of Hawai'i Alliance of Student Veterans and a Fellow within Senator Will Espero's office. I focus primarily on military and veteran issues. I support and nearly 12000 student veterans in Hawai'i support SB2131. HASV arose out of the need to create a united front across disparate universities and colleges to address the concerns of student veterans in Hawai'i. HASV's mission is to unite all student veterans across the Hawaiian Islands while bringing campus, community, and state awareness to all matters affecting student veterans.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill pays the highest in-state tuition and fees. Due to military obligations, many veterans are unable to establish in-state residency for the purposes of enrolling at a public university or college. Ultimately, this becomes a financial burden that leaves veterans vying for additional financial aid due to out-of-state residency status. Using the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, as an example, student veterans have to pay nearly 17,000 out of pocket until their residency kicks in after one year.

SB 2131 would make all student veterans eligible for in-state tuition at the University of Hawai'i's colleges and universities, regardless of their residency status, eliminating the need for veterans seeking a post-secondary credential to find full-time employment or accrue student loan debt while attending Hawaii's public institutions. The protocol for establishing residency for tuition purposes is to wait a full year, leaving many recently-separated veterans unable to satisfy strict requirements due to their service in another state. Nuanced policies within our university system are highly complex and penalize veterans with stringent residency requirements they are unable to fulfill due to their honorable military service.

According to a state-by-state landscape analysis conducted by Student Veterans of America, 12 states already offer in-state tuition to veterans, 8 states offer conditional waivers to veterans under particular circumstances, and another 16 states are currently considering similar legislation.

State leaders, such as Congresswoman Hanabusa and Congresswoman Gabbard have recognized the financial and social benefits veterans bring to Hawai'i, which was seen last week, when they voted yes on HB357 requiring all 50 states to allow non-resident veterans in-state tuition. Although, we must not depend on the status of this bill, within the Senate, but now, in the state of Hawaii. The longer we wait, the further into debt our student veterans go. Furthermore, not only do student veterans diversify the landscape of higher education by bringing their unique experiences and perspectives to Hawaii's public campuses, but many veterans will pursue careers within the same state post-graduation.



I urge you Senator Espero, Senator Taniguchi and the committee members to please pass this bill through and show the people of Hawai'i that you all understand the true meaning of veteran helpful.

Mahalo

James M. Cavin



Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2131 – Relating to the University of Hawaii
Senate Committee on Higher Education &
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Tuesday, February 11, 2014
2:50pm, Conference Room 224

Aloha Chairs Taniguchi and Espero, Vice Chairs Kahele and Baker, and members of the committees:

The Young Democrats of Hawaii supports Senate Bill 2131, relating to the University of Hawaii.

We're proud to be in support of the Hawaii Alliance of Student Veterans in their efforts in bolstering support and resources made available to our student veterans.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill pays the highest in-state tuition and fees. Due to military obligations, many veterans are unable to establish in-state residency for the purposes of enrolling at a public university or college. Ultimately, this becomes a financial burden that leaves veterans vying for additional financial aid due to out-of-state residency status. Using the University of Hawaii at Manoa as an example, student veterans have to pay nearly \$17,000 out of pocket until their residency kicks in after one year.

SB 2131 would make all student veterans eligible for in-state tuition at the University of Hawaii's colleges and universities, regardless of their residency status, eliminating the need for veterans seeking a post-secondary credential to find full-time employment or accrue student loan debt while attending Hawaii's public institutions. The protocol for establishing residency for tuition purposes is to wait a full year, leaving many recently-separated veterans unable to satisfy strict requirements due to their service in another state. Nuanced policies within our university system are highly complex and penalize veterans with stringent residency requirements they are unable to fulfill due to their honorable military service.

According to a state-by-state landscape analysis conducted by Student Veterans of America, 12 states already offer in-state tuition to veterans, 8 states offer conditional waivers to veterans under particular circumstances, and another 16 states are currently considering similar legislation.

We ask for your favorable consideration of this measure.

With Aloha,


Francis H. Choe
President

The Young Democrats of Hawaii represents over 1500 registered Young Democrats, between the ages of 16 and 35. We strive to stimulate in young people an active interest in governmental affairs, promote their involvement in the political process, increase the political strength of young people, and provide the highest degree of social justice and equal opportunity for Hawaii's people.



Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2131 – Relating to the University of Hawaii

Senate Committee on Higher Education &

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

2:50pm, Conference Room 224

Aloha Chairs Taniguchi and Espero, Vice Chairs Kahele and Baker, and members of the committees:

The Young Democrats of Maui County stands in strong support of Senate Bill 2131, relating to the University of Hawai'i.

Along with our parent organization, the Young Democrats of Hawai'i, we are proud to be in support of the Hawaii Alliance of Student Veterans in their efforts to bolster support for resources being made available to our student veterans.

Out-of-state tuition can cost veterans more than their education benefits provide and thus contribute to their student loan debt. Providing in-state tuition would allow our student veterans an opportunity to obtain a high-quality education without an unnecessary financial burden.

We ask for your favorable consideration of this measure.

Very Respectfully,

Chelton J. Miyazono
Chair

The Young Democrats of Maui County represents over 200 registered Young Democrats, between the ages of 16 and 35, residing on the islands of Maui County. Established in December 2013, we strive to motivate young people to get informed & involved with the government and our community. YDMC works diligently to provide young Democrats an environment where the political process and our elected Democratic officials are more approachable and accessible.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: mauibrad@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Friday, February 07, 2014 4:17:38 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/7/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Parsons	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Should read, "... who were honorably discharged, and previously stationed in Hawaii."

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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: jerzeygurll22@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM*
Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 6:41:14 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
caity fuller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: santy2506@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 9:57:23 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carlos	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Active duty and veterans are often displaced from their home state in order to serve their country. I support SB2131 because veterans should be allowed to benefit from education in their new state of residence. It's time for our country and our state of Hawaii to serve them. I ask you to support this bill.

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To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: chelton.j.miyazono@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM*
Date: Sunday, February 09, 2014 5:57:22 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/9/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelton Miyazono	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: codyfultz@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM*
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 7:27:21 AM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cody J. Fultz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: icalkins@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Saturday, February 08, 2014 4:49:05 AM
Attachments: [.-lock.DEMOCRATIC PARTY LINE.odt#](#)

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/8/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
IRA CALKINS	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: IRA CALKINS GOVERNMENTAL RESEARCHER 730 Captain Cook Ave Unit 426 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2161 Your actions will prove the following assertions to be the truth and factual. The Democratic Party Line has taken away the voice of the people in the making of laws. Taxation with out representation in the State of Hawaii. It appears the Hawaii State Legislators are being blackmailed in to voting the Democratic party line, or else the Democratic Party will not support the State of Hawaii Legislators in all state wide elections. It does not matter what the tax payers think, the Democratic Party line lays down the law on all bills before the State of Hawaii Legislature. The chairman's in all committee meetings has a predisposed script to follow that the Speaker of the House, and the Speaker of the Senate has given the Committee Chairs to follow, to instruct the committee members how to vote on a any given measures, all Bills in all committees of the State of Hawaii Legislature. It is determined ahead of time by the Democratic Party members how a committee member will vote when staying with in the party line on any given Bill in the State of Hawaii Legislature, Democracy has been taken away from the tax payers in the State of Hawaii. Ira Calkins Honolulu 4696434 or 3498667 FAX 808-545-4707 Washington D.C. 202-697-9782

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To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: roushsj@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 12:50:09 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Steven Roush	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hawaii should join other states that have enacted similar policies in support of our veterans.

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Cc: rbanda@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 2:34:50 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raymond	non-profit	Support	Yes

Comments: Will submit testimony in person.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: alysonyogi@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 3:20:46 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alyson Yogi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing to express my strong support for SB2131. Working in higher education in a state with such a significant military population, I have encountered many out-of-state veterans seeking to further their education here in Hawaii. As legislators and educators, we find ourselves in a unique position to assist veterans in gaining access to more affordable education and thereby empowering them to continue to contribute their skills in the workforce. We have already started to see improvement in efforts to promote higher education within our State by teaching our young people the value of education. Let us continue this important message by showing our service men and women how much we support them and their goals for higher education by affording them in-state tuition.

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SB 2131

LATE

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Report Title: University of Hawaii System; Veterans; Residency; Tuition; Waiver

Description: Requires the board of regents of the University of Hawaii to waive the nonresident tuition and fee differential for veterans of the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy, who were honorably discharged.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HRE/PSM, WAM

Introducer(s): KAHELE, CHUN OAKLAND, ENGLISH, ESPERO, GALUTERIA, Dela Cruz, Shimabukuro, Slom, Tokuda



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Higher Education and
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 2:50pm, Conference Room 224
By Jan Javinar,
Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs

SB2131 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

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The University currently waives payment of the nonresident tuition differential for active duty military members and their spouses as well as those in the National Guard or Reserves. For academic year 2012-2013, a total of 114 National Guard and Reserve personnel received this benefit which amounted to \$774,792 of University foregone revenue. Additionally, in the same period, a total of 1,853 active duty personnel received this benefit amounting to \$9,423,276 of University foregone revenue. For the University, the amount of funding caused by waiving the nonresident tuition & fee differential for veterans and active duty/reserve personnel would be significant.

Awarding the non-resident tuition differential for veterans discharged honorably from the Armed Forces will no doubt increase the numbers of student veterans on the University of Hawai'i campuses. The University would welcome additional legislative appropriations to cover the foregone revenue. Also, the University would need the assistance of a state office such as the Office of Veterans Services to "confirm" the veteran status of individuals desiring to avail themselves of the benefit proposed by this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The University supports the intent of this bill, provided that this support does not impact the University's budget priorities as articulated in its budget request. We appreciate your support of encouraging our veterans to improve themselves and the communities in which they reside through post-secondary education.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: makahababy@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 5:22:37 PM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Perry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support our Veterans getting educated at the in-state tuition rate within our UH system. They get kama'aina treatment for many other things, why not extend in-state tuition rates to them as well? It just makes sense. These men and women do a lot for our country, and it is a small thing for our University system to extend this benefit back to them. Many veterans cannot afford to go into debt with student loans to complete or further their college educations, and this would be one way to keep dedicated, hard working students in our system.

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Cc: teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2131 on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 9:17:28 AM

SB2131

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for HRE/PSM on Feb 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I stand in STRONG SUPPORT of this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify as a veteran with 30+ years service.

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