



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 2550, S.D. 1, RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 25, 2014

**TIME:** 9:15 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 211

**TESTIFIER(S):** WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY. For more information, call  
Randall S. Nishiyama, Deputy Attorney General, 586-1267

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Chair Ige and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments:

This bill establishes a five-year pilot project at the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Pharmacy that ensures the financial self-sufficiency of the College.

As proposed, this bill raises a concern that it intrudes into the internal management of the Board of Regents (BOR). Under article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution, the BOR is to have "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university." However, section 6 further provides that: "This section shall not limit the power of the legislature to enact laws of statewide concern. The legislature shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern."

The legislature should consider amending this bill to add a provision identifying the bill to be a law of statewide concern.

We respectfully ask the Committee to consider our comments.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
February 25, 2014 at 9:15 a.m.

by  
Donald O. Straney  
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

### SB 2550 SD1 – RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2550 SD1 which establishes a five-year pilot program at the pharmacy school of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UHH), under which the school shall be financially self-sufficient and managerially autonomous from the University of Hawai'i. The bill establishes a UHH Pharmacy School Special Fund and a Board of Governors for the Pharmacy School; and appropriates an unspecified sum out of the special fund for the purposes of the Act.

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the intent of the bill, which provides an avenue for funding the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's facilities, which is required to maintain its accreditation. The college has met all requirements for accreditation except for having a permanent home. This requirement must be met by June 2014 or the college is in jeopardy of losing its accreditation. The University places a very high priority on maintaining the college, which is the only college of pharmacy in the region.

Provisions of the bill would duplicate or replace parts of the University's functions. The University has an existing mechanism for evaluating new programs. The Board of Governors this bill would establish duplicates the function of the Board of Regents. We believe both provisions are not necessary for the purpose of establishing a self-supporting college.

We are concerned that there are uncertainties in the financial aspects of establishing a college as self-sufficient or autonomous. It is not clear that the college is able to be both self-sufficient on its tuition revenues and able to cover the debt service on the full cost of the building the college requires, especially over the 30-year period of the debt.

The budget request submitted by the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i and included by the Governor in his executive budget request has as its first priority for new construction \$28M in general obligation bonds and \$5M in revenue bonds to construct a permanent home for the college. The University continues to believe this is the best approach to funding this building. We stand ready to discuss alternatives, but at this point, we prefer the Governor's proposal to the funding mechanism described in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI  
Council Member  
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396  
FAX: (808) 961-8912  
EMAIL: [donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us](mailto:donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 24, 2014

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Senator Ige and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

Established in 2006, this college attracts from across the State students who will become the next generation of health professionals.

However, the lack of a permanent facility places its full accreditation in jeopardy and threatens to undo all of the achievements in recent years. The building is fully designed and "shovel-ready." The faculty and students of the college are depending on the Legislature to approve funds to retain its accreditation status.

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy is a tremendous asset for the State and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, and I ask that you recommend approval of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Onishi".

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi  
Hawai'i County Council Member

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2550 on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM  
**Date:** Sunday, February 23, 2014 8:33:02 AM

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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/23/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carol A. VanCamp	Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Support	No

Comments: Our 300-member organization fully supports this bill, as it would allow UHH's already-established and accredited College of Pharmacy program to move forward with producing graduates in pharmacy and attract significant research dollars for the university.

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*"Health care that is safe, health care that works, and health care that leaves no one behind"*

THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator David Y. Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Tuesday, February 25, 2014  
TIME: 9:25 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 211  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

**Howard Ainsley**  
**East Hawaii Regional CEO**  
**Hawaii Health Systems Corporation**

On Behalf of the East Hawaii Region of Hawaii Health Systems corporation (HHSC), thank you, Chairman Ige and Vice Chair Kidani for the opportunity to present testimony in support of SB 2550, S.D. 1, Relating to Higher Education that establishes a 5-year pilot program at the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy.

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawaii Hilo is a critical partner for the HHSC Primary Care Training Program; a team model of care aiming to close the physician shortage gap in Hawaii. The college currently provides two faculty members, Dr. Victoria Rupp and Dr. Christina Mnatzaganian ambulatory care pharmacy specialists. Doctors Rupp and Mnatzaganian provide the majority of care for our patient with diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure, as well as managing patients on blood thinners for vascular conditions. They are integral members of our team allowing the physicians to care for other patient issues.

The College of Pharmacy students train alongside medical students, residents, psychologists and advance practice nursing students with the intent of creating new career paths for pharmacists in the State of Hawaii.

I recognize that the success of Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo is a vital part of addressing Hawaii's shortage of medical professionals.

I hereby strongly urge your support for SB 2550, S.D. 1.



Hawai'i Island Economic  
Development Board  
[www.hiedb.org](http://www.hiedb.org)

T:808-935-2180

F:808-935-2187

Hawaii Innovation Center at Hilo 117 Keawe St. Suite 107, Hilo, HI 96720-2811

23 February 2014

## Testimony for the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

### Regarding Senate Bill No. 2550, SD1

#### Relating to Higher Education

Hearing on February 25<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 9:15 a.m.

Hawai'i State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street,  
Conference Room 211

James Takamine, Chair  
Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union

Michael Kaleikini, Secretary  
PGV/ORMAT

David Honma, Treasurer  
First Hawaiian Bank

Greg Chun, PhD, Immediate Past Chair  
Awa Kele LLC

Roberta Chu, Director  
Bank of Hawaii

LeeAnn Crabbe, Director  
Queen Liliuokalani Trust

Nahua Guilloz, Director  
Parker Ranch

Richard Ha, Director  
Hamakua Springs Country Farms

Richard Henderson, Director  
Realty Investment Co., Ltd.

Jay Ignacio, Director  
HELCO

Ashley Kierkiewicz, Director  
Hastings & Pleadwell

Marvin Min, Director  
Hawaii Gas

Barry Taniguchi, Director  
KTA Super Stores

Bill Walter, Director  
W.H. Shipman, Ltd.

Elisa Yadao, Director  
HMSA

Jacqui Hoover, COO  
Executive Director

The Honorable Senator David Ige, Chair; Vice Chair Michelle Kidani; and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Jacqui Hoover, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Island Economic  
Development Board (HIEDB), President of Hawai'i Leeward Planning  
Conference (HLPC), and a member of the Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye  
College of Pharmacy.

Your consideration of [SB2550, SD1](#) is greatly appreciated as are the  
combined efforts of our legislature, policy makers, the University of  
Hawai'i system, and community to ensure full compliance for national  
accreditation for the pharmacy program.

Members and affiliates of HIEDB numbering in excess of one hundred  
(100) Hawai'i Island stakeholders collectively and respectively support all  
efforts to secure the funding necessary for the construction of permanent  
facilities for the DKU College of Pharmacy. As such, while we prefer that  
the funding for the construction of the College of Pharmacy be left in the  
Capital Improvement budget as requested by the University of Hawai'i  
Board of Regents and the Governor, as we believe that this would  
demonstrate to the accreditation committee and others a firmer  
commitment to the College and pharmacy program, HIEDB is supportive of  
all finance options under consideration.

Mahalo for allowing me this opportunity to speak in support of HB 2550,  
SD1. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

/Jacqui L. Hoover  
E-mail: [jhoover@hiedb.org](mailto:jhoover@hiedb.org)



# Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

117 Keawe Street, Suite 205  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2851  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: [admin@hicc.biz](mailto:admin@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

**Executive Officer**  
Miles Yoshioka

February 24, 2014,

**2013 -2014 Board**

*President*  
Judith Fox-Goldstein

*President-Elect*  
Chuck Erskine

*Vice President*  
Ka'iu Kimura

*Treasurer*  
Jon Miyata

*Immediate Past President*  
Vaughn Cook

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Randy Kurohara  
Kapena Lum  
Keith Marrack  
Tani Matsubara  
Stephanie Nagata  
Spencer Oliver  
Glenn Santos  
Wesley Segawa  
Donald Straney  
Gordon Takaki  
Craig Takamine  
Barry Taniguchi  
Misti Tyrin  
Steve Ueda  
Carol VanCamp  
William Walter  
Noreen Yamane

Testimony for the Senate Ways & Means Committee  
Regarding Senate Bill 2550, SD1  
Committee Hearing on February 25, 2014  
Hawaii State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii

## RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Aloha and Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. I am submitting this testimony in both my capacity as President of the Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce (HICC) and as the HICC representative on the Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy Committee (FDICoP).

The Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce (HICC) represents over 250 businesses and approximately 600+ individual members. HICC also represents the "Voice of Small Business in Hawaii." Both (HICC and FDKICoP) stand firmly in support of the FDKICoP. We ask that funding be granted to the College so it may fulfill its promise to their students, and the broader community.

The College of Pharmacy has proven its expertise and merits accreditation. Should their building not be funded, all of this exceptional work (and all the promises of productive futures for students) will be lost.

We must find a way to ensure the sustainability of the College!

We appreciate Chair Choy's introduction of HB 1652 and commend the efforts in considering various options to ensure the success of UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy. At the same time, the Board of Regents and the Governor has included in the FY 15 Supplemental Budget \$28M in general obligation bond funds and \$5M in revenue bond funds to be secured by UH system revenues, to construct a new instructional facility for the DK1 College of Pharmacy.

Our first preference is to support the funding for the construction of the College of Pharmacy through the Capital Improvement budget as



# Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

117 Keawe Street, Suite 205  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-2851  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: [admin@hicc.biz](mailto:admin@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

requested by the Board of Regents and the Administration as this would provide greater confidence in terms of longevity of the program.

However, we want to ensure full compliance for national accreditation of the pharmacy program, so we are open to viable funding options as presenting by Chair Choy.

Having a prestigious, successful and flourishing College of Pharmacy will have state-wide benefits and is definitely an investment in the future of Hawaii. Jobs and careers for local students, contributions to the economy through research and the international prestige of this exceptional College will have far reaching benefits. I can't think of a better solution to the 'brain-drain' as this will allow students, from throughout the state, to remain in Hawaii and support their families through successful careers in the field of pharmacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Judith Fox-Goldstein, President, Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce  
Member, Friends of the Daniel K Inouye College of Pharmacy (FDKICoP)



**Testimony for the Senate Committee on Way and Means**  
**Regarding SB 2550, SD1, Relating to Higher Education**  
**Committee Hearing on February 25, 2014 at 9:15 am**  
**Hawaii State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 211**

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

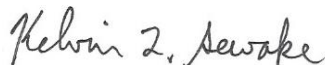
Aloha! My name is Kelvin Sewake and I am chair of the Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. We are a steering committee made up of members of the broad community representing businesses, organizations, and concerned individuals.

We appreciate the introduction of SB 2550, SD1, and commend the Senate's efforts in considering various options to ensure the success of UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy. At the same time, the Board of Regents and the Governor has included in the FY 15 Supplemental Budget \$28M in general obligation bond funds and \$5M in revenue bond funds to be secured by UH system revenues, to construct a new instructional facility for the DKI College of Pharmacy.

While we much prefer that the funding for the construction of the College of Pharmacy be left in the Capital Improvement budget as requested by the Board of Regents and the Administration as this would provide greater confidence in terms of longevity of the program, we want to ensure full compliance for national accreditation of the pharmacy program, so we are open to viable funding options.

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,



Kelvin T. Sewake  
Chair, Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy  
Ph: 808-938-5559  
Email: Gr82bfrienz@aol.com

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pharmatsci@gmail.com](mailto:pharmatsci@gmail.com)  
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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/23/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ken morris	College of Pharmacy executive. committee	Support	Yes

Comments:

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Written Testimony of Phyllis Dendle

For decision making before:  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair



February 25, 2014  
9:15 am  
Conference Room 211

**SB2550 SD1 RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION**

Chair Ige, and committee members, thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on SB2550 SD1 creating a five year pilot program to ensure the financial self-sufficiency of the college of pharmacy and could permit the construction of a permanent facility for The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

**Kaiser Permanente Hawaii supports efforts to maintain the college of pharmacy at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.**

Hawaii continues to have a shortage of pharmacists to fill all of the positions needed in the state. This shortage is a problem for Kaiser Permanente Hawaii as well as many other health care organizations in the state. DKICP is the only program in Hawaii to offer the Doctor of Pharmacy which is the recognized degree for becoming a licensed, registered pharmacist.

Without a permanent building, the college is in imminent risk of losing accreditation and closing which means Hawaii would no longer have a college of pharmacy. This could have a wide ranging negative effect on health care in Hawaii. Funding for a permanent building helps to assure the College can meet all of the professional accreditation standards and continue contributing to the State and the profession. In as much as the proposed five year program may support the construction of the needed facility we are in support of it.

We urge the legislature to support the continuation of the DKICP. Thank you for your consideration.

# Hawai'i Construction Alliance

P.O. Box 179441  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 348-8885

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February 23, 2014

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
and members  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**RE: Support for SB2550 SD1, Relating to Higher Education.**

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance supports SB2550 SD1, which establishes a five-year pilot project at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy that ensures the financial self-sufficiency of the college and establishes a special fund for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy.

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Hawai'i Masons Union, Local 1 and Local 630; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local 3. Together, the four member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the four basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

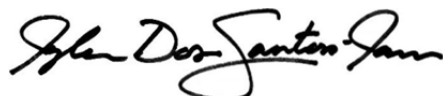
The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy currently includes over 500 student, faculty, and staff members; has graduated three classes of PharmDs; and contributes more than \$50M into the state's economy each year. It was also ranked as one of the top five new schools of pharmacy by US News and World Report in 2012. In order for the school to continue its impressive track record in research, education, and outreach, and to support its accreditation, it must secure funding for a permanent facility.

We find that SB2550 SD1 proposes an innovative approach to fund the construction, maintenance, and operation of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Although a more customary approach – such as general obligation bonds – may be more practical in bringing about the construction of a permanent facility for the college, an alternative funding mechanism may also be successful.

Therefore, we respectfully request the Committee on Ways and Means to pass SB2550 SD1 to allow for this alternative funding option to remain viable.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Aloha,



Tyler Dos Santos-Tam  
Executive Director  
Hawai'i Construction Alliance  
execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org

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**Cc:** [adrake@ssfm.com](mailto:adrake@ssfm.com)  
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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/23/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
austen drake	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I highly support this bill. Without an adequate facility the accreditation of the UH Hilo pharmacy program is in jeopardy. The school is extremely important for both the BigIsland and the entire State of Hawaii.

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**Testimony for the House Committee on Finance**  
**Regarding SB2550 SD1, Relating to Higher Education**  
**Committee Hearing on February 25, 2014 at 9:15 am**  
**Hawaii State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 211**

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Aloha! My name is Barry Mark. I am an owner of a financial planning and investment advising practice in Hilo, HI. I was born and raised on the Big Island and have been a resident for 32 of my 47 years.

I am recording my strong support of SB2550 SD1 to secure funding for the permanent building for The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP). Thank you for accepting my testimony on this important issue.

DKICP is the only program in Hawaii and the Pacific Region to offer the Doctor of Pharmacy. This is the only recognized degree for becoming a licensed, registered pharmacist. Without a permanent building, the college is in imminent risk of being placed on probation, losing accreditation and closing. This would mean that Hawai'i would no longer have a college of pharmacy. This would have dire effects on health care in Hawai'i, all related health care organizations and the state's ability to improve the quality of rural health care.

The pharmacist shortage in the Pacific region served by the UH College of Pharmacy continues to be identified as one of the largest deficits in the nation according to data from Pharmacy Manpower Project. At the same time, DKICP is transforming health care in Hawai'i with new models of care such as the \$14.4 million Pharm2Pharm project, which leverages the current supply of pharmacists.

I appreciate and commend the efforts in considering various options to ensure the success of UH Hilo's Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Given the short time frame remaining to achieve full compliance for national accreditation of the pharmacy program, the need to address the UH System repair and maintenance backlog, as well as the capacity for DKICP to be able to service the debt obligation with appropriate operational and funding modifications for this permanent facility, the approach outlined in SB2550 SD1 represents the most practical and viable vehicle to reach the compromise required to achieve this highly necessary and desired outcome.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:** [carlgraf55@aol.com](mailto:carlgraf55@aol.com)  
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**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 7:29:39 AM

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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
carl graf	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: We need to keep this moving for the good of our community, our children, our island and our state.

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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/24/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
DELBERT NISHIMOTO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/23/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hugh Y Ono	Individual	Support	No

Comments: PLEASE PLEASE SUPPORT THIS BILL. We in Hilo are so proud of our UHH School of Pharmacy. It would be ashamed if a mechanism to allow for this building facility were not passed. We believe that this could enable vs. be the demise of a really great program.

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**From:** [Min, Marvin](#)  
**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** SB2550, SD1- Support  
**Date:** Monday, February 24, 2014 7:35:04 AM

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Aloha,  
I would like to support SB2550. SD1.

I am a member of the college of pharmacy steering committee comprised of local business and community groups. This will help our College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawaii- Hilo to become self-sufficient and support our mission for the University.

Should you have any questions please contact me at (808) 640-8859 or via email at [mtccmin@yahoo.com](mailto:mtccmin@yahoo.com)

Mahalo,

Marvin Min  
426 Olu St.  
Hilo, HI 96720

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**To:** [WAM Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [rontthi@gmail.com](mailto:rontthi@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2550 on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM\*  
**Date:** Saturday, February 22, 2014 8:38:21 AM

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**SB2550**

Submitted on: 2/22/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2014 09:15AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronald Taniguchi, Pharm.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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