

SB 2550

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

Report Title: UH-Hilo; Pharmacy School; Pilot Project; Special Fund; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Establishes a 5-year pilot project at the pharmacy school of UH-Hilo that ensures the financial self-sufficiency of the school. Establishes a special fund for the pharmacy school. Appropriates moneys from the special fund.

Companion: [HB1652](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: HRE, WAM

Introducer(s): TANIGUCHI

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Cc: cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2550 on Feb 4, 2014 15:00PM
Date: Monday, February 03, 2014 3:27:33 AM

SB2550

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for HRE on Feb 4, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

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

Comments: It is critical that the UHH College of Pharmacy get funding for a permanent building in order to retain their accreditation and continue their valuable research and impact on our statewide economy. They are also providing pharmacists to meet the growing needs of our islands.

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Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

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February 3, 2014

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Steve Ueda
Carol VanCamp
William Walter
Noreen Yamane

Testimony for the Senate Committee on Higher Education
Regarding Senate Bill # 2550, Relating to Higher Education
Committee Hearing on February 4,2014 at 3:00 pm
Hawaii State Capitol,
415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 309

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Aloha and Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of the UH Hilo 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.

My testimony expresses the views of the membership of HICC and the members of FDKICoP in support of the College of Pharmacy. The FDKICoP consists of a very concerned group of business people and committed individuals who represent many businesses and organizations in the community and, the HICC continues to be the "voice of small business" on the Island of Hawai'i.

The goal, from both groups, is to ensure funding and accreditation for the College of Pharmacy so the College can 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 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.



Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce

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

Error! Objects cannot be created from editing field codes.

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



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HILO

February 3, 2014

Re: S.B. NO. 2550. RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

To whom it may concern:

My name is Dr. John Pezzuto and I am the Founding Dean of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at UH Hilo. Following consultation with the executive team of the College, I am testifying **IN SUPPORT** of S.B. NO. 2550.

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy is the only program in Hawaii and the Pacific Region to offer the Doctor of Pharmacy. This is the only degree acceptable for becoming a licensed, registered pharmacist. Since the College was launched in 2006, we have realized impressive progress in every aspect of our tripartite mission. The program has been accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Accreditation Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE). However, the College currently stands out of compliance with one of 30 professional standards mandated by the ACPE. This is the standard relating to Physical Facilities. Unless we comply with this standard, professional accreditation will be lost.

This Bill describes an approach that is innovative and entrepreneurial. The Bill helps to assure the College can meet all of the professional accreditation standards and continue contributing to the State and the profession. However, as became clear subsequent to the hearing held in regard to H.B. 1652, a variety of amendments are necessary for the Bill to be compliant with existing law and the organizational structure of UH.

Therefore, in a manner that is coincident with the revised version of H.B. 1652, we propose amendments to S.B. NO. 2550 that will provide clarity while still meeting the intent of the Bill.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Pezzuto".

John M. Pezzuto, Ph.D.
Professor and Founding Dean



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
February 4, 2014 at 3:00pm
by
Donald O. Straney
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 2550 – RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2550 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.

February 3, 2014

Re: S.B. NO. 2550. RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

To: the Higher Education Committee:

My name is Ken Morris and I am writing as a private citizen but am also a professor and the chairman of the department of Pharmaceutical Science at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at UH Hilo. I also sit on the executive team of the College and am testifying **IN STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. NO. 2550.

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy is the only program in Hawaii and the Pacific Region. We have an approved and established curriculum, outstanding faculty and staff, successful and growing research activities, and a world class system of experiential sites for our students. Our Doctor of Pharmacy students and the associated faculty serve the state starting in the very first year of the program. The students spend the first 3 of their 4 years on the Big Island taking classes and getting early experiential training at local pharmacies, clinics, and the hospital. Their final year is all clinical rotations throughout the country and U.S. territories. We are graduating excellent students (97% graduation and License exam pass rate, and 95% employment for the 1st class) and are in all ways compliant with the standards required for the college except for having a permanent central facility for the college.

This Bill offers a unique opportunity to obtain financing for the building and to maintain the program. I realize there are legitimate logistical concerns but trust that as the bill moves through the legislative process it will benefit from thoughtful amendment to insure adequate funding for the initiative and satisfy any concerns of all the stakeholders.

Thank you for your service and for providing the opportunity for this testimony.

Sincerely,

Ken Morris, Ph.D.

Testimony for the Senate Committee on Higher Education

**Regarding Senate Bill No. 2550, Relating to Higher Education
Committee Hearing on February 4, 2014 at 3:00 pm
Hawaii State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Conference Room 414**

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

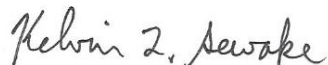
Aloha! My name is Kelvin Sewake and I am chair of the Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. We are a steering committee made up of members of the broad community representing businesses, organizations, and concerned individuals.

We appreciate the introduction of SB 2550 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 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: Gr82bfriendz@aol.com

February 2, 2014

Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Gilbert Kahele, Vice Chair
And Members
Hawaii Senate Committee on Higher Education

**Re: Senate Bill No. 2550, Relating to Higher Education
Committee Hearing, February 4, 2014**

Aloha, Senators Taniguchi and Kahele and Committee Members:

First, I wish to thank you for your service to our State.

I am a member of the Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, a diverse collection of individuals and business groups that understands the economic, academic and health benefits for our State afforded by the Pharmacy School.

I would not strongly oppose SB 2550, as it also promotes the success of the UHH Pharmacy School, but think the first course should be to support recommendations of the Board of Regents and the Governor included in the FY 15 Supplemental Budget, \$28 million in general obligation bond funds and \$5 million in revenue bond funds to be secured by UH system revenues.

That said, I agree with our Friends group that while we prefer the Regents' and Administration route, we are concerned about accreditation and so remain open to other options, such as SB 2550.

Mahalo,



Barbara A. Hastings
Member: Friends of Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy
bahastings@mac.com

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Cc: davidtarnas@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2550 on Feb 4, 2014 15:00PM
Date: Monday, February 03, 2014 9:52:30 AM

SB2550

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for HRE on Feb 4, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Tarnas	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chairman Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Kahele, and Committee members. Along with many other Friends of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at UH Hilo, I support SB 2550 as one viable means of financing the buildings and parking lots needed for a fully accredited College of Pharmacy. The College of Pharmacy is a successful higher education venture by UH Hilo in partnership with the Hawaii Island community that deserves the support of the Hawaii State Legislature. The College of Pharmacy has the potential to make sustainable and meaningful contributions to improve the health of our community and economy. Because of the compelling public interest to establish the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy, I recommend that the legislature funds the CIP through General Obligation bonds rather than through a special fund as described in SB 2550. However, if this year's budget doesn't allow for GO bonds to cover all of the CIP of the College of Pharmacy, then perhaps the arrangement in this bill offers an alternative business arrangement that has been successful in other pharmacy colleges on the U.S. mainland. To obtain accreditation as a college of pharmacy, it is imperative for the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy to obtain legislative approval for a financing plan for constructing the buildings and parking lots needed to be an operating college, either through CIP GO bond funding or this special fund in SB 2550. This viable financing is required for the College of Pharmacy to receive its accreditation, currently under review. Please support UH Hilo's College of Pharmacy! Mahalo for your consideration. David Tarnas, P.O. Box 6882, Kamuela, Hawaii 96743.

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SB2550

Submitted on: 2/3/2014

Testimony for HRE on Feb 4, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hugh Y Ono	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Request your support in passing this Bill for the following reasons: * UHH School of Pharmacy is an economic driver for our island and State. * We are so very proud of this School and what it has done for Hilo, our island and the State of Hawaii. * It would be ashamed if a building was not constructed, accreditation lost and with that a program that we are so very proud of. * We as community members have worked very hard to have this program where it is.

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SB2550

Submitted on: 2/2/2014

Testimony for HRE on Feb 4, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Morris	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I stand in strong support of SB2550 and thank the Senate for considering this possibility to continue the work already started. This building is necessary to ensure the future of the College of Pharmacy, which supports health care and the economy on all our islands.

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