SB 2552

LATE

Testimony

Measure Title:	RELATING TO THE BUDGET.
Report Title:	UH; Budget; Program Execution; Exceptions; Repeal
Description:	Removes program execution exceptions provisions that are specific to the University of Hawaii.
Companion:	HB1491
Package:	None
Current Referral:	HRE, WAM
Introducer(s):	TANIGUCHI

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

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
S.B. NO. 2552,   RELATING TO THE BUDGET.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

DATE:	Tuesday, February 4, 2014	**TIME:**	3:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	State Capitol, Room 414		
TESTIFIER(S):	David M. Louie, Attorney General, or		
	Randall S. Nishiyama, Deputy Attorney General		

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments:

This bill amends the budgetary program execution exceptions to eliminate the exceptions that are specific to the University of Hawaii. Under the proposed amendments, the University would then be treated like any other state department regarding the execution of their financial operations.

While article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution, gives the University's Board of Regents "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university," we consider the amendments proposed by this bill to relate to the budgetary process. We believe that laws relating to the budgetary process are laws of statewide concern. We note that article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution, provides that the Legislature may enact laws of statewide concern. In addition, the Hawaii State Constitution also provides that the Legislature has exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern. In order to make it clear that this bill is a law of statewide concern, we suggest that the Committee include a statement that this bill is a law of statewide concern.

We respectfully ask the Committee to consider our comments.