

# SB2676

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO LANDS CONTROLLED BY THE STATE.

**Report Title:** Public Land Sale or Gift; University of Hawaii; Legislative Approval

**Description:** Repeals the exemption from required legislative approval for the sale or gift of non-ceded lands conveyed to the University of Hawaii after December 31, 1989, to which the University of Hawaii holds title.

**Companion:**

**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** WTL/HRE, WAM

**Introducer(s):** SOLOMON, Dela Cruz, English, Galuteria, Kahele, Nishihara

<u>Sort by Date</u>		<b>Status Text</b>
1/17/2014	S	Introduced.
1/21/2014	S	Passed First Reading.
1/21/2014	S	Referred to WTL/HRE, WAM.
1/31/2014	S	The committee(s) on WTL/HRE has scheduled a public hearing on 02-04-14 2:50PM in conference room 414.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committees on Water and Land and Higher Education  
February 4, 2014 at 2:50pm  
by  
Howard Todo  
Vice President of Budget & Finance, and Chief Financial Officer  
University of Hawai'i System

SB 2676 – RELATING TO LANDS CONTROLLED BY THE STATE

Chairs Solomon and Taniguchi, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Kahele and Members of the Senate Committees Water and Land and on Higher Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to express concerns on this measure.

SB 2676 proposes to repeal the exemption from required legislative approval for the sale or gift of non-ceded lands conveyed to the University of Hawai'i after December 31, 1989, to which the University of Hawai'i holds title.

The Board of Regents is currently updating its Board policy on land and its statements on their purposes, which include the promotion and support of the University's educational and research mission while advancing the principals of environmental stewardship and sustainability. This legislative measure may conflict with the University in meeting its mission.

The University's current focus is on ground leasing opportunities of its lands surrounding the West O'ahu campus. The University may consider other options that may include land sales with the intent that the proceeds would be applied against outstanding revenue bonds or loans, resulting in reducing its current debt service obligations within UH West Oahu's operating budget.

Should the University be required to obtain the Legislature's approval, the timely closing of any land transaction may be jeopardized, especially when the Legislature is in recess.

Accordingly we request that this measure be deferred.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.