



Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, February 19, 2014
9:20 a.m.

S.B. 2816, SD1, Making an Appropriation to Support University of Hawaii Collective Bargaining Costs.

Dear Chairman Ige and Committee Members:

On behalf of the faculty members in Bargaining Unit 7, I strongly urge your favorable approval of SB 2816. This bill is consistent with forty years of employment relations practice under HRS Chapter 89 with respect to the funding of public sector collective bargaining agreements. The bill is necessary to fund the salary increases agreed to by the State of Hawaii, the UH Board of Regents, and UHPA, the exclusive representative for BU7.

The appropriation includes the costs of the salary increases covered within the 2013 Biennium Budget; a 3% increase effective on July 1, 2013 and a 3% increase effective on July 1, 2014. These amounts are consistent with other public sector bargaining unit increases, over the same period, which have already been approved by the Legislature. Further, the allocation includes the readjusted salary base total to which the increases are applied, consistent with the "snap-back" of public sector salaries approved for this biennium for the bargaining units set forth in HRS Chapter 89.

The approval of these collective bargaining increases in a separate bill is consistent with the provisions of HRS Chapter 89 and the funding of public sector salary increases under the statute. Further, the Legislature's approval is essential to the integrity of the public sector collective bargaining process.

Respectfully submitted,

J. N. Musto, Ph.D.
Executive Director and Chief Negotiator

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
PROFESSIONAL ASSEMBLY

1017 Palm Drive • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1928
Telephone: (808) 593-2157 • Facsimile: (808) 593-2160
Web Page: <http://www.uhpa.org>