



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
April 2, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

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

SB 3093 SD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo). We support SB 3093 SD1 that appropriates funds to UH Hilo to support its memorandum of agreement with RISE 21st Century After School Program and the implementation of the agreement by the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i, a unit of UH Hilo.

The 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i has been cultivating community partnerships that targets greater engagement by Hawai'i Island youth with the resources of UH Hilo. A positive partnership has been established with the RISE 21st Century After School Program that serves as a community and cultural resource for disadvantaged Native Hawaiian youth in Keaukaha. The proposal will help to expand collaborative opportunities supported by staffing and curriculum resources to establish mentorships, initiate project-based learning activities, and offer academic and career planning. UH Hilo views our continued partnership and collaboration with RISE as a positive solution to increase access to higher education and career opportunities for Native Hawaiians on Hawai'i Island.

We support SB 3093 SD1 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 3093 SD1. Aloha.

finance8-Danyl

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 4:05 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: elamafarms@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB3093 on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM

SB3093

Submitted on: 3/31/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa	Keaukaha Community Association	Support	No

Comments: Aloha mai kaou e Honorable members of the State Legislature, I am Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa an native Hawaiian as defined under the HHCA, 1920 as defined and the current President of the Keaukaha Community Association (KCA) and we are asking all of your favorable recommendation to SB3093 to fund a worthy program between the UH-Hilo Imiloa and RISE Century 21 afterschool program for our native Hawaiian student from the Keaukaha and Panaewa communities. We want and will be an inclusive program to be sucessful. Again we KCA is in full support of the efforts of all involved in this project SB 3093. 'Owau me ka ha'aha'a Patrick L. Kahawaiolaa

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April 1, 2014

‘IMILOA
Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i

Chairman Sylvia Luke
Vice Chairman Scott Nishimoto
Members of the House Finance

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Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720

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Re: SB 3093 Relating to the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo
Letter of Support

Aloha kākou Chairman Luke, Vice Chairman Nishimoto, and Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of SB 3093 and the relationship between the RISE After School Program and the ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center.

‘Imiloa’s mission is to honor Maunakea by sharing the culture and science of the mountain to inspire generations.

Science and culture united provides a powerful and inspiring story, and it would be hard to imagine anywhere in the world better suited to tell that story than on the Island of Hawai‘i, at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo where world-class science coexists with a rich and remarkable indigenous culture. ‘Imiloa not only serves as an educational outreach to the general community, but it more importantly serves as a connector and pipeline for K-12 student and teacher engagement with higher educational resources and opportunities.

At the same time, ‘Imiloa today remains a work in progress. Recognizing that ‘Imiloa has yet to achieve its full potential, the leadership and staff are cultivating community partnerships that targets greater engagement by Hawai‘i Island youth with the resources of the University of Hawai‘i. The partnership that we’ve cultivated with the RISE program directly relates to our priority of serving as a pipeline to higher education. The ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center would serve as a bridge between the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo and start with the youth of Keaukaha and Pana‘ewa through the RISE program and its efforts by creating mentorship opportunities, project based learning activities, and also peer mentoring opportunities between youth groups of the Island. We eventually would like to be able to grow this program to expand throughout the island, and potentially the state. With changing economic, societal, environmental, and political conditions, it is critical that we afford educational opportunities that engage our local youth in meaningful, relevant experiences to help equip them for their futures – Hawai‘i’s future.

Therefore, we humbly ask for your support for SB 3093 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,



Ka‘iu Kimura
Executive Director

BICKERTON ■ LEE ■ DANG ■ SULLIVAN ■ MEHEULA

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

April 1, 2014

House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: SB 3093 / SD1
April 2, 2014 Hearing
Letter of Support

Dear Chairperson Luke, Vice Chairman Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Members of the House Finance Committee:

My name is Stanley H Roehrig. I was born and raised in Manoa. I have been practicing law in Hilo for almost 49 years.

During territorial days in 1952, when I was about 5'2" tall and 12 years old, I went from Manoa Elementary School to Stevenson Elementary School. At the time Stevenson was a war zone. I got off on the wrong foot. I joined a gang for survival and beefed under the cafeteria. My "after school program" was detention on most days. The Principal told my mom I was not going to make it at Stevenson, that I was flunking out and that I had to go elsewhere. My parents were frightened and enrolled me in Punahou.

Now I am frightened for my grandson Kawelo, a kolohe young boy who is growing up in Keaukaha. He is Hawaiian, Filipino, Chinese, and Haoli. The RISE After School Program headed by Keahi and Ka'iu can make a difference in our keiki's lives. By connecting this Program to the University of Hawaii, it has a chance of survival for the long term.

Keahi, Ka'iu and I met years ago at the Hawaiian Language College. I also know Keahi and Ka'iu from paddling at Keaukaha Canoe Club for many years. They are part of our Keaukaha Community and both Doctoral candidates at UH Hilo. Chancellor Straney and his staff of professionals are passionate to make this happen.

Please help us implement the RISE Program.

Sincerely,



Stanley H. Roehrig
Of Counsel

SHR/jmm

LATE

Naomi Kuuipo Ahu
Fiscal & Administrative Coordinator
R.I.S.E.
REVEALING INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS FOR EXCELLENCE
21STCENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
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April 2, 2014

Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: SB3093 SD1 / Hearing on April 2, 2014

Dear Members of the House Committee on Finance:

My name is Naomi Ahu, a 23-year resident of the Hilo district and a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Hilo's College of Business and Economics Baccalaureate program and Hawaii Pacific University's Master of Arts in Organizational Change program. In addition, I am the sole fiscal and administrative support for the R.I.S.E program and was instrumental in its initial creation.

I have worked alongside R.I.S.E. Executive Director, Shadd Keahi Warfield on various community projects and programs involving youth in our community (specifically the Keaukaha and Panaewa Hawaiian Homestead areas) for the past 10 years. Through such experiences, I have recognized the challenges our local youth face such as exposure to drugs, alcohol, abuse, poverty, suicide, domestic violence, and more.

It is extremely important for these youth to have exposure to opportunities to offset such behaviors and/or circumstances and to help them recognize their true potential in becoming valuable contributors to the sustainability of our community and future generations. I have extreme confidence that the R.I.S.E. program will contribute greatly to this need, being that it is one of the only programs of its kind in the Hilo district.

Our established relationship and memorandum of agreement with the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the Imiloa Astronomy Center helps to increase the higher education and career opportunities for R.I.S.E. youth participants and the larger community; one of the main objectives R.I.S.E. is striving to achieve. An appropriation of funding to support our collaborative efforts would greatly support our goals moving forward. Therefore, I greatly support the intent of SB3093 SD1 and truly appreciate your consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Naomi K. Ahu