

SB 3093

Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO.

Report Title: University of Hawaii at Hilo; 'Imiloa Astronomy Center; RISE 21st Century After School Program; Appropriation (\$)

Description: Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii at Hilo to support its memorandum of agreement with RISE 21st Century After School Program.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HRE, WAM

Introducer(s): KAHELE, HEE, SOLOMON, WAKAI, Galuteria, Kidani, Shimabukuro, Tokuda



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
February 11, 2014 at 3:30 p.m.

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

SB 3093 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Kahele 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 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 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. Aloha.

Shadd Keahi Warfield
Executive Director
R.I.S.E.
REVEALING INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS FOR EXCELLENCE
21stCENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
67 Keokea Ln.
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Telephone: (808) 895-8666
keahi.koyd.rise@gmail.com

February 10, 2014

Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Re: SB3093 - February 11, 2014

Dear Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

Aloha my name is Shadd Keahi Warfield. I am a child of Keaukaha Hawaiian Homestead community where I have lived for 32 years. I have been educated in western, traditional and non-traditional ways of learning and make a decent living by servicing our youth as a teacher.

I have been involved in numerous community projects and have advocated, organized and funded a variety of indigenous education opportunities as a means to offset drug and alcohol abuse, poverty, suicide and domestic abuse amongst our youth. My main goal is to *Reveal the Individual Strengths* of our youth for *Excellence*. Our collaborative relationship with the University of Hawaii at Hilo as well as Hawaii Community College through the Imiloa Astronomy Center helps us create a more fluid path to get our community youth into more Higher Educational Opportunities.

I am hopeful that when I meet you in person my story will compel you to support SB3093. The reason is simple; we must nurture and provide positive venues to enhance individual growth, self-confidence, leadership and self-discipline amongst our youth to sustain our Hawaii. An appropriation of funding in support of our collaboration will help us meet these goals.

Thank you for your consideration into this matter.

Sincerely,

Shadd Keahi Warfield

Naomi Ahu
Fiscal & Administrative Coordinator
R.I.S.E.
REVEALING INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS FOR EXCELLENCE
21STCENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM
67 Keokea Loop
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Telephone: (808) 756-5859
naomi.koyd.rise@gmail.com

February 10, 2014

Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

Re: SB3093 / February 11, 2014

Dear Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

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 and truly appreciate your consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Naomi K. Ahu

February 11, 2014

‘IMILOA
Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i

Chairman Brian Taniguchi
Vice Chairman Gil Kahele
Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education

600 ‘Imiloa Place
Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720

(808) 969-9700 tel
(808) 969-9748 fax
www.imiloahawaii.org

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

Aloha kākou Chairman Taniguchi, Vice Chairman Kahele, and Members of the Senate
Higher Education Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of HB 2443 and the relationship between the RISE
After School Program and the ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center.

Since opening in 2006, the ‘Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai‘i – University of Hawai‘i at
Hilo - has emerged as a major new cultural institution serving the Island of Hawai‘i and
the world beyond. ‘Imiloa is a popular success, serving over 100,000 visitors each year,
as well as a major education asset for the Island.

*‘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. At a time when

Therefore, we humbly ask for your support for HB2443 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

LAW OFFICES OF
STANLEY H. ROEHRIG

ATTORNEY AT LAW
A Law Corporation
101 AUPUNI STREET, SUITE 124
HILO, HAWAII 96720
TELEPHONE: (808) 969-1441
shroehrig@hawaii.rr.com

February 10, 2014

Chairman Brian T. Taniguchi
Vice Chairman Gilbert Kahele
Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee

Re: SB 3093 / February 11, 2014
Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Taniguchi, Vice Chairman Kahele, and Members of the Senate Higher Education Committee:

My name is Stanley H Roehrig. I am a local boy lawyer living in Hilo. I was raised in Manoa and moved with my young wife to Hilo in 1966 to practice law. Most of our 48 years in Hilo have been in Keaukaha.

My wife and I have been involved with Keahi Warfield, Ka'iu Kimura, and many others in the development of the after school program for disadvantaged Hawaiian children in the Hilo area, called the RISE After School Program.

In the last session of this legislature, the legislature adopted both SCR132 and SR94, requesting the University of Hawaii at Hilo to implement the RISE Program. University of Hawaii at Hilo Chancellor Straney signed a Memorandum of Understanding implementing the program. See Exhibit "A" attached. The program is being administered as an outreach program of UH Hilo 'Imiloa Astronomy Center and the Division of Academic Affairs.

Through the vehicle of SB3093, the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the RISE 21st Century After School Program seek funding from the legislature for fiscal year 2014.

We believe that this program, initially based in Hilo, will be a prototype for an important statewide after school program in all areas of the state where the Hawaiian communities and their families are at risk.

Please help us with this measure.

Sincerely,

Stanley H. Roehrig

Exhibit "A"

SHR/jmm



UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII
HILO

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO
AND
RISE 21st Century After School Program

The University of Hawaii at Hilo and RISE 21st Century After School Program agree to cooperate via this memorandum of understanding to provide a bridge between the University of Hawaii at Hilo campus and the communities of Keaukaha and Pana'ewa for the purpose of creating mentorship opportunities, project based learning activities, and also peer mentoring opportunities for the youth of the RISE program.

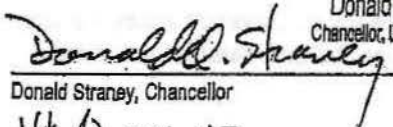
This agreement provides for a collaborative partnership in the belief that the agreement will increase mutual interest in higher education promotion and workforce development for healthy communities.


1. UH Hilo (Imiloa Astronomy Center and the division of Academic Affairs) and RISE agree to the following activities based on their respective missions and educational needs and objectives:
 - a. UHH will provide mentoring for encouragement, motivation, and self esteem and to increase knowledge of future career and academic paths;
 - b. UHH and RISE shall collaborate on funding initiatives to support collaborative goals and objectives;
 - c. UHH and RISE will collaboratively develop and offer project based activities that foster and encourage peer mentoring while addressing relevant community initiatives.
2. The implementation of this agreement shall be separately negotiated and determined by both Imiloa and RISE. Efforts shall be made by both sides to find financial sources for carrying out the objectives listed above.
3. This agreement is in force for two (2) years and is subject to revision or modification by mutual agreement. It is also understood that either party may terminate the agreement at any time.
4. This agreement is effective when the representatives of both parties have affixed their signatures and seal to the agreement.

On behalf of the University of Hawaii at Hilo

On behalf of RISE

Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Hawaii at Hilo


Donald Straney, Chancellor


Keshi Warfield, Director

14 Nov 13
Date

19 NOV 13
Date

EXHIBIT "A"

From: [Elroy Osorio](#)
To: [HRETestimony](#)
Subject: SB3093, Relating to the University of Hawaii at Hilo
Date: Monday, February 10, 2014 3:22:35 PM

I would like to voice my support for this measure as it directly promotes the continued development of an important educational program for Native Hawaiian teen-aged students.

As an after-school program, RISE offers students aged 13-17 a “safe-place” learning center focusing on five core values: Character, Commitment, Courage, Compatibility and Competence.

The course of instruction is non-traditional in the contemporary sense, but instead engages traditional Hawaiian methods and practices while still utilizing state of the art technology to capture the imagination and enthusiasm of the students.

I don't believe there's another program like RISE anywhere.

My own children are too old to benefit from this program, but I can only pray that RISE will still be viable and flourishing when my grand-children, and my great-grandchildren come of age to participate.

Mahalo,

Elroy T. L. Osorio, Jr.
483 Kupulau Rd
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 959-9221

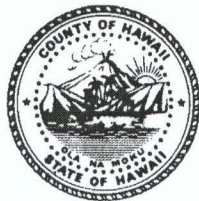
SB 3093

LATE

Testimony

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DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI
Council Member
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396
FAX: (808) 961-8912
EMAIL: donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

February 10, 2014

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Higher Education

Dear Senator Taniguchi and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 3093.

This bill appropriates funds for personnel at the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i to build on the partnership with the RISE 21st Century After School Program and to help the children of Hilo.

I support the mission of RISE, which Senate Concurrent Resolution 132 SD1 (2013) stated is to serve as a community resource for underprivileged Native Hawaiian youth ages 12 to 17 in Hilo.

Funds appropriated by this bill will allow University of Hawai'i at Hilo personnel to mentor participants in the after school program and help them to set academic and career goals. This mentoring will give them the support they need.

This is an important investment in our community's future and I ask that you recommend approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Onishi".

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi
Hawai'i County Council Member