

# SB 325

## LATE

### Testimony

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Report Title: University of Hawaii; Appropriation; Student Employees (\$)

Description: Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii to pay student employees at new or expanded worksites on each campus.

Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HEA, WAM

Introducer(s): TANIGUCHI



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [franalyn@hawaii.edu](mailto:franalyn@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB325 on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 7:58:08 PM  
**Attachments:** [Testimony.jobopp325.pdf](#)

---

**SB325**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Franalyn Galiza	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Strong Support for SB325**  
**Committee on Higher Education and the Arts**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
February 3, 2015  
Hawai'i State Capitol

To: Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of committee

From: Geryll Anthony A. Agno  
Sulong Aral, Leeward Community College  
94-045 Ala Ike Street, DA-204  
Pearl City, HI 96782

Subject: Testimony in strong support of SB325

My name is Geryll Anthony A. Agno, a prospective graduate of Leeward Community College with an Associate's of Arts in Liberal Arts degree by the end of this semester, Spring 2015. Upon completing my time in the community college, I plan to pursue a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science degree at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. In addition, I am a student worker at Leeward CC working as a student assistant and peer mentor for the Sulong Aral program. Being a student worker has helped me in multiple ways for the past year and it will be my third semester as a student worker.

I am a relatively new immigrant here in the United States of America – I got here on 2011. My primary goal of coming here is to acquire a college degree that I could use to get a good job. Little did I know that I am up for a very long and frustrating ride.

The start of my college experience did not go as I expected. I spent my first four semesters taking no more than six credits per semester because I could not afford tuition. During this period, I was forced to work part-time in a job I never imagined myself to be in so that I could save for tuition money and other expenses regarding college. I work at a Jack-in-the-Box branch that was fifteen miles away from home because I could not find a more practical location for a job.

After four semesters and two years of taking less than 6 credits worth of classes, I decided to go to school full-time. I needed to quit my job because I wanted to focus on my studies and that work is obstructing with my schedule. Most workplaces here in the state do not care about their workers in terms of their lives outside work; this applies to my previous job so I could not work around my school schedule. In addition, my previous did not offer me any way of learning, and personal and professional development, leaving me to decide that it was not worth it.

Soon enough, I was again in need of a stable source of even small income that would help me survive. I struggled through my first semester as a full-time student but I could not endure another one. This is when I thought about working in-campus as a student worker because taking another job that does not care is not an option for me anymore. I was fortunate enough to have

great mentors who recommended me to someone and eventually landed me a job in the Sulong Aral Program at Leeward Community College.

As a student-worker, my supervisor knew the importance of school in comparison to any kind of work I would need to do for the program. This alone helped me a lot. Working just part-time while going to school full time is not an easy task. Students like me in this situation need all the help we can get, and an understanding and caring job is the best scenario for us – an employment in campus.

First of all, we have the chance to work around our school schedule and do what is best for our time. Secondly, the work we do for our respective jobs provide good learning opportunities outside a regular class. Personally, ever since I started working for Sulong Aral, I have improved leaps and bounds in my communication, organizing, planning, critical thinking, and social skills. It also provides us professional development opportunities that will eventually prove to be very helpful when we finally finish our education. Third, our employment provides us with hundreds of opportunities to network with other professionals and create good relationships with the right people – people who are not just colleagues but also mentors and inspirations.

With your support, current student workers like me and future student workers will be able to succeed without worrying too much about our financial needs.

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Geryll Anthony A. Agno  
geryll@hawaii.edu

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [jeffrey.acido@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.acido@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB325 on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:22:17 PM

---

**SB325**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeffrey Acido	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Aloha Chair Sen. Taniguchi, Sen. Inouye, and committee on Higher Education Committee: Thank you for giving us a moment to comment and testify on this important issue. I grew up in Kalihi, attend all the public schools in Kalihi, and went to Honolulu Community College and finished my doctorates at UH Manoa. I want to say that during my time at the University of Hawaii I was employed as a student in different offices, ranging from the Leeward Community college as college recruiter, as a cancer awareness advocate at Manoa, as a graduate student teaching classes in the Ilokano language program. I am thankful for those opportunities, not only because of the obvious financial rewards but more so because of the many knowledge and wisdom that I learned. You see, jobs for students at the university mean so much more than just money—even though that is what we are advocating for—it means that we can stay on campus, avoid commuting, and dedicate more time to our studies; it means that we get to meet amazing people who do great work that someday we may get into in education, in politics, in science. Above all, it means that we get to work in an environment that makes use of our talents while promoting the value of education. Thank you so much for time, Jeffrey Tangonan Acido, PhD

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [makahababy@aol.com](mailto:makahababy@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB325 on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:52:10 PM

---

**SB325**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sara Perry	UH Student Caucus	Support	No

Comments: The UH Student Caucus supports this Bill. We find that student employment opportunities will only benefit our student population with real-world experiences. Often, campus jobs are much more flexible for students while they attend classes, and offer the perk of geographic location so a student doesn't have to leave the campus to work between their classes. Mahalo for your consideration of this testimony, Sara E. Perry UH Student Caucus, Chair

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu](mailto:teresa.parsons@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB325 on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:44:21 PM

---

**SB325**

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HEA on Feb 3, 2015 13:30PM in Conference Room 224

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This Bill will enable more students to stay in school, so I encourage you to support this Bill.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)