

LATE  
TESTIMONY  
SB 518

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HEA Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mkahikina@gmail.com](mailto:mkahikina@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB518 on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM  
**Date:** Monday, February 09, 2015 10:02:50 PM

---

**SB518**

Submitted on: 2/9/2015

Testimony for HEA/WTL on Feb 10, 2015 14:30PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Kahikina	Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assem	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha mai kakou: I am writing in STRONG OPPOSITION to SB518 transferring the lands in Kapolei designated for the construction of the University of Hawai'i West O'ahu campus to the Department of Land and Natural Resources. As a resident of Nanakulli, a member of the Executive Cabinet of the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly (SCHHA), and a proud graduate of UHWO I am asking the legislature to kill this bill. Our children in Nanakuli, Wai'anae, Kapolei, Waipahu, and beyond need to have easy access to a first class institution of higher learning. We need to have life-enhancing educational opportunities available in multiple disciplines. Rather than cutting the UHWO resources, the legislature should be building them. Chancellor Rockne Freitas is the only UH administrator who has taken any interest in partnering with our native Hawaiian community. His effort to turn the UHWO campus into a Hawaiian place of learning is one that is strongly supported by our community. We have asked Chancellor Freitas to develop and/or expand programs that provide professional qualifications, particularly in the areas of health and education. Teacher education and educational leadership are two areas that we prioritize and we have had several discussions with Chancellor Freitas about building a state of the art College of Education that is easily accessible by our beneficiaries, particularly those residing on the Hawaiian homesteads in West O'ahu. The preparation of highly effective teachers and educational leaders is the only way that our communities like Nanakuli and Wai'anae will be able to turn around our failing public schools. This is a critical area of need. Expanding the UHWO campus, as intended, is central to our mission. Again, I strongly oppose SB518 Ke aloha no, Michael Kahikina

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)



February 11, 2015

RE: Against SB518

Dear Legislators,

My name is Ryan James Sommer and I and the student body President of the University of Hawai'i-West Oah'u. I have been the President for the past two years and have served on my campus communication committee and its strategic planning committee to ensure that our students have a voice on our campus. In its planning and development.

This bill SB518, will strip our campus of land, and the student of its resources. The University has a set amount of land that the students and future students of the Leeward Coast and the West Side rely on. These lands will harbor the centers for education. To strip them away will in turn lower the capabilities of the University.

I ask you Senators; when SB518 comes to the table, please vote against.

Respectfully,

Ryan James Sommer  
President,  
ASUHWO