

## HRE Testimony

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**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424SD1



**From:** Christine Sorensen [mailto:sorens@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:58 AM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424SD1

I am writing to support HB424SD1. In particular, I support adding a faculty voice to the Board of Regents. Students and faculty are the core of the university and having their voices on the Board of Regents is critically important. In addition, as we see our students being priced out of the opportunity for higher education, it is important to re-think how we fund our institutions. We cannot continue to raise tuition and continue to do business as usual.

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Christine K. Sorensen Irvine  
Professor, Learning Design and Technology  
College of Education  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

## HRE Testimony

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**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:11 AM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424

**LATE**

**From:** Susan Brown [mailto:susanb@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:53 AM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424

Aloha,

I support this legislation especially having University of Hawaii faculty represented on the BOR and agree with the union that no special vetting should have to take place.

Susan Brown

## HRE Testimony

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**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:25 AM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424, testimony

**LATE**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Paul [mailto:paul.mckimmy@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 9:09 AM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424, testimony

I strongly support conversion of two UH BOR seats to Faculty seats. As a faculty member at UHM for 15 years, I feel strongly that our BOR does not have clear understanding of the instructional mission or instructional implication of BOR policies and actions. It is time for faculty voices on the BOR.

Thank you

Paul McKimmy  
808-561-1044

## HRE Testimony

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**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:25 AM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424

**LATE**

**From:** Lyn Uratani [mailto:lynuratani@u.boisestate.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 10:04 AM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424

Aloha Sen. Kahele,

Please see my testimony below:

My name is Lyn Uratani and I am writing to support HB424, namely the bill's second point that asks for a moratorium to be placed on the UH Board of Regents to prevent further increases in student tuition.

I have spent the majority of my life on Oahu, where I was born and raised, with the exception of several years in college in Idaho. I would have been happy to earn my degrees at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, but budget cuts in the late 2000s prevented several core classes in my major from being offered. Without these classes, I would not be able to graduate in four years. This was an especially critical time frame for my parents, who were only able to assist me financially with certain educational/personal expenses as long as I attended classes on a full-time basis and finished in four years. Thus, I was forced to consider transferring away from home.

I learned that Boise State University, a member of the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) tuition program, allowed me to transfer all of my credits. As a result of the BSU Admissions Office's efforts, I was able to graduate with a B.A. one semester earlier, meeting my goal to finish in four years, thus allowing me to pursue a fully-funded M.A. immediately thereafter.

Surprisingly, undergraduate tuition and fees at Boise State, although calculated at 150% in-state tuition as per WUE program requirements, still cost my family considerably less than UH Manoa. Even today, this difference in cost between the two schools is apparent: via a [2016-2017 cost-comparison chart](#) on the WUE website, UHM costs our residents \$10,872 a year whereas BSU costs qualifying out-of-state WUE participants \$7,308 a year.

Aside from my personal BSU and UHM comparison, the above-linked chart alone identifies numerous mainland four-year universities whose 150% WUE-specific tuition still amounts to less than what UHM would cost for an in-state resident. Such an observation renders laughable UH officials' claims made in a [Hawaii News Now feature on 2/27/17](#) that tuition and fees at UHM are "still below what students on the mainland pay." Based on WUE numbers alone, it is easy to see possibilities as to why enrollment at UHM is tanking.

While I am very grateful to have had such positive learning experiences away from home and to have earned two degrees at Boise State, I truly believe that Hawaii's students should not have to "shop around" for the best educational deal, as I did. However, since the UH Board of Regents has lost sight of the fact that so many hard-working UH system students are barely able, or frankly, unable to afford what the Board deems is a "low-cost" education, more of our best and brightest will have no choice but to leave the islands. Clearly, if UHM is trying

to "attract more students to reverse a decline in enrollment," it should minimally start with capping tuition where it is.

Thank you very much for your time,

Lyn Uratani, M.A.  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

**LATE**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:22 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Cc:** unheelim@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB424 on Mar 21, 2017 13:20PM

**HB424**

Submitted on: 3/21/2017

Testimony for HRE/GVO on Mar 21, 2017 13:20PM in Conference Room 414

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Unhee Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB424 SD1, specifically, "(1) Require that two members of the University of Hawaii board of regents be faculty members;" UH is an institution of higher education, no matter how much members of the community would like it to be something else. The historical and remaining large gap between the UH administration vs. the faculty (the work force of the university's teaching and research missions) in the former's lack of respect for the fundamental principles and procedures is hurting all aspects of the operation, finance, personnel management and academic performance. With all due respect for the current BOR members, they often do not fully understand or represent the interest of the University (=what the faculty and students achieve) and being disconnected from the faculty and students, they make decisions at times just for the sake of keeping up the appearances. That is a sure way to get stuck with the same problems. Having just two faculty members on BOR will not resolve the many problems but it can be a start - a small compromise that both UH administration and BOR in the past have refused to make. Thus, we require the legislature's help. Thank you. Unhee Lim, PhD Associate Professor, UH Manoa

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)



# DAVID N. CHIN

66 Queen St Apt 2902, Honolulu, HI 96813-4417  
808-529-0930  
chin@hawaii.edu

**LATE**

March 21, 2017

Testimony re: HB 424 SD1

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I would like to personally voice my support for HB 424 HD1 Proposed SD1 – Relating to the University of Hawaii. As a faculty member of UH Mānoa and a former vice-chair and then chair of the Mānoa Faculty Senate, I was able to attend every UH Board of Regents (BOR) meeting over the course of two years. I found that the BOR was quite well intentioned, but often did not have a clue about how the university actually functions where “the rubber meets the road,” that is where professors actually teach students. Adding two regents with university teaching experience to the BOR would greatly improve the BOR perspective on the most important function of UH. Regarding Jan Gouveia and Kalbert Young’s written testimony on behalf of UH System that faculty regents would be “contrary to the principles of sound governance,” I want to point out that although ideally you want regents to represent the general public and not specific interest groups, you can get the best of both by having non-voting faculty regents. For example, the University of California Board of Regents has two Faculty Representatives to the Regents. Because adding two UH Faculty regents to the UH Board of Regents would greatly expand the expertise of the BOR regarding the core function of UH, teaching students, I strongly support HB 424 HD1 Proposed SD1. Thank you.

Sincerely,



David N. Chin

## HRE Testimony

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**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:44 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424SD1 University of Hawaii Hearing TODAY

**LATE**

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**From:** Marguerite Butler [mailto:mbutler808@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:12 PM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424SD1 University of Hawaii Hearing TODAY

PERSONAL TESTIMONY in support of HB424SD1 with comments

Dear Senator Kahele, and members of the Higher Education Committee,

**I am writing in strong support of the provision to Convert the two At-Large seats on the UH Board of Regents to FACULTY seats.** 1 from the Community Colleges and 1 from the Four Year Institutions.

Strong universities across the nation include faculty regents, in order to improve governance so that the Board can be better informed of the state of the institution, as well as to better understand some of the potential impacts of their decision-making. At the University of California, for example, the faculty senate president serves as an ex-officio Regent.

At UH Manoa, we do have a structural flaw in terms of administrative accountability. At no level of the administrative hierarchy are any executives accountable to faculty. For example, deans alone are consulted by upper administration on most matters involving faculty, yet deans do not report to the faculty! They report to administration and are in fact executives themselves. Thus, all their incentives in pursuing an issue favor the administrative viewpoint, with no incentive to fully consult or faithfully represent faculty. Decision making can therefore happen with very little faculty input but with the dean's representation to administration, BOR, and legislature of unanimous support, as evidenced in several recent initiatives on campus.

Indeed, there is a clear, growing disconnect between faculty and administration and a lack of institutional commitment to shared governance in which the faculty are strongly involved in the decision-making process.

I believe that including the faculty perspective on the BOR will go a long way towards ameliorating these issues to improve shared governance and accountability.

**With regard to the tuition moratorium.** I personally do agree that UH tuition is too high. We have priced ourselves out of the market so to speak, which may explain our soft enrollment. Students are working multiple jobs and their student debt is increasing. UH Manoa is in a state of fiscal crisis, and we do need to fix our fiscal problems. However, I do worry about legislating this problem. I would prefer to hold the administration and regents accountable for these decisions.

Sincerely,  
Marguerite Butler



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Marguerite A. Butler  
Associate Professor

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<http://butlerlab.org>

<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/biology/people/marguerite-butler>

<http://www2.hawaii.edu/~mbutler>

## HRE Testimony

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**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:45 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424SD1 University of Hawaii



**From:** Beth Sanders [mailto:bhamiltonsanders@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 12:33 PM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424SD1 University of Hawaii

Aloha. I support HB424SD1 University of Hawaii.

--Beth Sanders

**LATE**

The Committee on Higher Education and the Arts  
And Committee on Government Operations

RE: HB 424, HD1, Proposed SD1 Relating to the University of Hawaii

Attention: Chairs Kahele and Kim, Vice Chairs Kidani and Ruderman and members of the committee

As a professor emeritus and former administrator, having served for 35 years at University of Hawaii at Manoa, I write in favor of this bill. Part 1 places the responsibility for contracts for construction and construction services, and thus accountability, within the Office of the President.

In support of Part II, requiring that two faculty delegates serve on the BOR would bring UH in line with other institutions who value shared governance. Currently, the faculty has no meaningful way to participate in the decision-making process affecting the academic programs for which they are directly responsible, except to submit brief testimonies in the general public comment period prior to board meetings, or submitting resolutions of support or protest to predetermined proposals. Neither has proven satisfactory in mitigating a situation of increasing adversarial positions.

Having faculty represented as voting members, similar to the student delegate, would allow yet another important constituency voice to share information and provide suggestions to other board members, who may not be as familiar with the workings of an academic institution. Including two faculty members in the BOR, who have qualified themselves through their profession and academic experiences with first-hand knowledge of the impacts of the decisions being made, would contribute to having more informed and enhanced decision-making.

Regarding student tuitions, serious consideration should be made regarding increases. The national data shows that Hawaii is ranked as having the 15th highest average in-state tuition and fees for public 4-year universities among the 50 states. When totaled with out-of-state tuition, Hawaii is the 5th highest.

The 5 year percentage change for in-state tuition puts Hawaii at the top 20 percent. However, UH tuition and fees for the two year public institutions are higher than only 20 states.

Source: 2016-17 Tuition and Fees at Public Four-Year Institutions by State and Five-Year Percentage Change in In-State Tuition and Fees

Here is the graph:

<https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/2016-17-state-tuition-and-fees-public-four-year-institutions-state-and-five-year-percentage>

Here is the data:

<https://trends.collegeboard.org/college-pricing/figures-tables/tuition-fees-sector-state-over-time>

Other data reporting that UH tuition is more affordable in terms of family income needs to be weighed against data showing to what extent household income is reflective of having relatively more income earners per household, holding multiple jobs or having several families living together. In the competitive market for college students, increases in state tuition must be weighed against this being a deterrent for higher paying out-of-state and graduate students. In past, sudden tuition increases resulted in large decreases in these categories which have not yet recovered, so any further increases may worsen the situation.

Respectfully submitted,

*Juanita Liu*

Juanita Liu, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus

University of Hawaii at Manoa

## HRE Testimony

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**LATE**

**From:** kahele1 - Kainoa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 4:41 PM  
**To:** HRE Testimony  
**Subject:** FW: HB424SD1 University of Hawaii Hearing TODAY  
**Attachments:** 20161214\_Reso\_Calling\_Revised\_Cmtt\_Structure\_BOR.docx; ATT00001.htm

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**From:** Marguerite Butler [mailto:mbutler808@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:56 AM  
**To:** kahele1 - Kainoa <kahele1@capitol.hawaii.gov>  
**Subject:** HB424SD1 University of Hawaii Hearing TODAY

Aloha Senator Kahele,

On Dec 14 2016, the Manoa Faculty Senate passed a resolution in favor of changing the board structure to include a faculty regents in line with HB424SD1. Please see the attached resolution below with attached votes below.

Sincerely,  
Marguerite Butler  
Member of the Senate Executive Committee  
Manoa Faculty Senate



*Presented to the Mānoa Faculty Senate by the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) for a vote of the full Senate on December 14, 2016. A resolution calling for a revised committee structure for the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents. Approved by the Mānoa Faculty Senate on December 14, 2016 with 31 votes in support of approval, 8 votes against, and 3 votes in abstention.*

**RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A REVISED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE FOR THE  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS (BoR)**

**WHEREAS**, a university functions best when students, faculty, administration, and staff are empowered to communicate directly with the governing board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Longanecker report recommended clarification of the lines of authority to support clearer communication and governance of the campuses vis-à-vis the University of Hawaii System; and

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of a governing board is to enact policies that optimally facilitate the mission of the university they oversee; and

**WHEREAS**, the voice of faculty, students, and key stakeholders provides information that can lead to more effective governance; and

**WHEREAS**, the community college system has missions that are fundamentally distinct from those of four year colleges and research universities; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the University of Hawaii Board of Regents should enact a new structure to better support the various missions of the university system whereby the chancellors of UH Mānoa, UH Hilo, and UH West Oahu each report directly to a subcommittee of the board focused on the four-year campuses, and the current Vice President for Community Colleges reports directly to a subcommittee of the BoR focused on the two-year campuses; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that authority over individual campuses be delegated to individual chancellors of the four-year institutions and the Vice President for the Community Colleges with direct oversight by the relevant committee of the BoR; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that each subcommittee shall have one faculty member who is a senate chair chosen from amongst the chairs of the faculty senates to serve as a non-voting member of the subcommittee.



*Supporting documents:*

1. [Resolution Requiring Approval by the Mānoa Faculty Senate for all Major System Funding Reallocations for UHM that Affect its Teaching and Research Mission](#)
2. [Resolution Calling for a Task Force to Study Optimal Organization to Enhance UH Mānoa Academic Quality and Function Including Possible Separation from the UH System](#)
3. [Resolution in Opposition to the Implementation of the Chapter 5, Academic Affairs Proposed Executive Policy EP5xxx on Programs with Low Numbers of Degrees Conferred](#)
4. [Presentation Report on the Current Structure of the University System by David A. Longanecker President of WICHE](#)