

March 28, 2017

Chair Kaiali'i Kahele
Committee On Higher Education
415 South Beretania Street, Room 414

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee on Higher Education,

I am submitting this letter for strong support of SR 60 as it stands, which requests that the University of Hawaii adapt a budget model that allocates resources according to a transparent and equitable formula.

Currently, it seems that there is a lack of a fair appropriation of funds that is proportional to the number of students in each college. One example of this problem is presented in SR 60. The Colleges of Arts and Sciences impacts almost all of the students at UH Manoa in some way. Many of the general education courses (English, Math, Chemistry, Religion) that are required of all undergraduates at UH are from the Colleges of Arts and Sciences. Even though I am not a Colleges of Arts and Sciences major, I myself have been heavily impacted by this college. I have taken several math, chemistry, and biology courses because I found the content provided interesting and the teachers to be excellent and very helpful. Not only do almost all of the students take courses from this college - many students enrolled at UH are pursuing majors in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences. To be sure that we are equipping our students with a quality education, it is imperative that each of the Colleges, such as the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, receive funding proportional to the number of students that they are impacting.

Therefore, I strongly recommend that SB 60 does pass through the Committee on Higher Education, as it stands.

Sincerely,

Scott Nishihara
Student, scottn40@hawaii.edu

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 11:12 PM
To: HRE Testimony
Cc: jkkeliip@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SR60 on Mar 28, 2017 13:50PM*

SR60

Submitted on: 3/27/2017

Testimony for HRE on Mar 28, 2017 13:50PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Keliipaakaua	Individual	Support	No

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

March 26, 2017

RE: Testimony in Support of SCR 60
Hearing before the Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, March 28, 2017
Conference Room 414

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the Committee:

I am submitting this testimony in support of SR 60

I have been a faculty member at UH-Manoa for 32 years. In fall 2017 I will resume my position as chair of the Political Science Department, after a medical leave. In the past I have chaired the Women's Studies Department as well as the Political Science Department, so I have considerable experience at running a department.

I strongly support SR 60 because it would bring a measure of equity to the budget process at UH. My departments are part of the College of Social Sciences, which regularly teaches the largest or near-largest share of students but does not receive tuition monies or general funds proportionate to our task. Our students learn to think critically about the world around them, to ask questions, to make valid arguments based on reliable information. Students further learn to read accurately, write effectively, speak honestly, and work productively with others to create ideas and solve problems.

These are, of course, abilities that they will need in their post-college lives. Even more importantly, these are capacities that all citizens of our country and residents of our communities need in order to participate in democratic governance. In a time when people who think that insisting on something is the same as verifying it run the White House, the skills of critical thinking are irreplaceable. I strongly urge your committee to assist this process by helping those of us who work at it every day to adequately fund our programs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathy E. Ferguson', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Kathy E. Ferguson
2154 Booth Road
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

LATE

From: dasguptafirst@gmail.com on behalf of [Monisha Das Gupta](#)
To: [HRE Testimony](#)
Subject: SCR 139 and SR 60
Date: Monday, March 27, 2017 5:41:07 PM

I am writing in strong support of a Senate Resolution that requests the University of Hawai'i at Manoa to distribute its tuition dollars equitably. Here is the deep inequity: the College of Arts and Sciences, which generates more than half of the student semester hours, receives only 18 percent of the tuition and general funds combined. The reward system for doing the work of the university -- teaching our students -- is skewed and has been for years.

Our students, who come with great aspirations, deserve better! My students come from hardworking families. My students are often the first in their families to go to college. They need an array of resources to support their learning. Cuts to the A&S budget have been disastrous for units that do the heavy lifting to make sure our students are fulfilling their GenEd requirements, getting the classes they need to graduate, and receiving the academic support to meet the rigors of receiving an education at a 4-year research university, with stellar undergraduate and graduate programs. The Resolution will allow for a recalibration that faculty and students have requested for years.

Monisha Das Gupta , Professor at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.
96815