



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
February 23, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

By

Donald O. Straney, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy
University of Hawai'i System

SB 3037 – RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 3037 that appropriates funds to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) to grant fund programs organized or sponsored by University of Hawai'i (UH) community colleges or a four-year campus to implement international college experiences for Hawai'i students enrolled at UH.

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the language of SB 3037, recognizing the value of international educational opportunities for Hawai'i's students. Education abroad programs have been acknowledged to contribute to students' success and preparation. SB 3037 notes Hawai'i's strong heritage ties to the Asia-Pacific, and studying abroad in these countries exposes students to the vibrant economies and cultures of the region, a benefit to the state. Furthermore, funding for study abroad programs would encourage student participation, and potentially diversify the kinds of students who are able to participate.

Study abroad programs at UH are currently organized at the campus level, and systemwide we have discussed how we might collaborate across campuses to benefit students. UH looks forward to working with campuses and DBEDT on programs that give opportunity for students to experience study abroad. We support the intent of SB 3037 as long as it does not supplant the UH Board of Regents approved budget.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide comments on SB 3037.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, February 23, 2018
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 3037
RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) would like to offer the following comments on SB 3037, which appropriates monies to DBEDT to fund “by grant” programs of the University of Hawaii to implement international college experiences for Hawaii students:

- The office of international relations in DBEDT does not exist because it was an unfunded mandate from several years ago.
- Article VII, section 4 of the Constitution provides, “No grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law.” DBEDT does not have such grant standards provided by law, and therefore it is questionable whether DBEDT would be able to expend this appropriation. We therefore request that you delete the words “by grant” on page 3, lines 2 and 10.
- In the alternative, if this appropriation was made to the UH rather than DBEDT, it may be possible that the UH has its own grant standards and could expend these funds in the form of grants.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

SB-3037

Submitted on: 2/22/2018 1:58:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

SB-3037

Submitted on: 2/21/2018 1:56:05 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-3037

Submitted on: 2/21/2018 11:54:45 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/23/2018 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tim Park	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

By allowing our students to study abroad, students become globally competitive by broaden their views, learning new languages, and by being culturally diversified. Students becomes an asset to their community by gaining experiences in a new environment and interacting with groups of people that will supplement their academics.

This fund will provide an opportunity to our students who are often challenged with the cost relating to study abroad.