



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Lower and Higher Education
February 7, 2020 at 2:20 p.m.

by
Kalbert K. Young
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i System
and
Kaleihi'iikapoli Rapoza
Interim Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 2257 – RELATING TO THE CONFERENCE CENTER REVOLVING FUND

Chair Woodson, Vice-Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i (UH) **supports** HB 2257, Relating to the Conference Center Revolving Fund. This bill proposes to amend the current statute authorizing the Fund. The bill will make the statute current and of contemporary use to the UH at Hilo (UH-Hilo) by establishing a UH-Hilo Conference Center Revolving Fund that all programs at UH-Hilo could use. The bill also specifies that the authority to expend moneys from the Fund will be the responsibility of the campus chancellor or their designee. The bill also requires an annual report to the Legislature regarding the Fund.

Under the current statute, the Conference Center Revolving Fund is specifically designated to the College of Continuing Education and Community Service at UH-Hilo. The College of Continuing Education and Community Service no longer exists. As such, it has not been possible to use this Fund and activity has been nonexistent. In the recently released Auditor's Report No. 20-03, the State Auditor recommended that this Fund be repealed as it has been inactive and no longer serves the purpose for which it was created. HB 2257 would amend the statute to allow the Fund to be used once again, similarly to Community College Conference Center Revolving Fund (Section 304A-2273, Hawai'i Revised Statutes).

Passage of this bill will allow UH-Hilo to once again use this Fund and we respectfully request your favorable consideration.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.