



HAWAI‘I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawai‘i · Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 · Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

Committee: Committee on Judiciary
Bill Number: S.B. 3058, S.D.1
Hearing Date/Time: February 25, 2020, 12:15 p.m.
Re: Testimony of the Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission with **COMMENTS**
on S.B. 3058, S.D.1, Relating to Technology Transfer at the University
of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Committee Members:

The Hawai‘i State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) had opposed an earlier version of this measure, which eliminated the sunset provision of Act 38 of 2017 (H.B. 425).¹ The Commission does not oppose the current version of this measure, which extends the sunset date by three years rather than removing it outright.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Commission’s work and for considering the Commission’s testimony on S.B. 3058, S.D.1.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck
Executive Director and General Counsel

¹ The Commission opposed Act 38; the Commission’s testimony on that measure is available at https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=425&year=2017.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Presented to the
Senate Committee on Judiciary
Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 12:15 p.m.
by
Vassilis L. Syrmos
Vice President for Research and Innovation
University of Hawai'i System

SB 3058 SD1 – RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports this bill that adds a three-year extension to the sunset date of Act 38, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2017, from June 30, 2022 to June 30, 2025.

In 2017, the Legislature supported UH's efforts to promote the commercialization of inventions and discoveries generated by its faculty, students and alumni by giving UH the responsibility to ensure that technology transfer activities it sponsors comport with ethic principles embodied in the State Ethics Code. Pursuant to Act 38, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2017, University of Hawai'i sponsored technology transfer activities would be exempt from specific sections of the State Ethics Code so long as these technology transfer activities were subject to ethic policies and a compliance program established by UH that were specifically adapted to unique features of university-generated innovations.

The University of Hawai'i has developed draft policies and protocols and is consulting with the various stakeholder groups in the UH community, including its faculty. To continue the efforts to develop the policies, internal guidance, forms and procedural protocols to fully implement a robust compliance program, UH respectfully requests that the sunset provision of Act 38, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2017, be extended as proposed in SB 3058 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.