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COMPTROLLER



An Agency of the State of Hawaii

ROSS I. YAMASAKI
CHAIRMAN, STADIUM AUTHORITY

RYAN G. ANDREWS
DEPUTY MANAGER

TESTIMONY
OF
RYAN G. ANDREWS, ACTING MANAGER
ALOHA STADIUM
STADIUM AUTHORITY
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
WATER AND LAND

FEBRUARY 8, 2022, 9:00 A.M.
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE at
CONFERENCE ROOM 430

H.B. 1552

RELATING TO THE STADIUM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of HB 1552.

We appreciate that this measure provides clarification to statutory language in §109-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes that was amended by Act 146, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, regarding the composition of members of the Stadium Authority Board. This measure clarifies and defines the number of board members that comprise the Stadium Authority, the district in which the two (2) new board members shall represent, and the area in which the two (2) members shall reside.

At this point, the timing and appointment of two (2) new members benefit and supports the Authority's effort to ensure that there are an appropriate number of board members in any given year as departing members end their final term and newly appointed members begin their term. With two major projects at the top of the board's agenda, it is imperative that a seamless continuity of service and vision is in place that ensures the goals and objectives of these projects remain consistent through its completion.

We ask for your support in approving this measure to provide clarity and consistency for the Stadium Authority board to stay the course. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of HB 1552.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Water & Land
February 8, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

by
Kalbert K. Young
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1552 – RELATING TO THE STADIUM DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i (UH) is supportive of HB 1552, which clarifies the composition change to the stadium authority as added by Act 146, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, and requests an amendment be considered that the UH member be included as a voting member on the board.

As UH had requested last year, the bill should be revised to allow the UH representative to have a vote on the Stadium Authority Board. Considering that the new stadium project is primarily for, and will rely on the UH use of the stadium as a major activity, it is prudent to ensure that UH is a contributing participatory decision maker in the Authority decisions. On page 6, lines 18 thru page 7, line 2, I recommend the bill be amended to allow the UH representative be a voting member, as follows:

The [~~eleven members shall include~~] remaining two members shall be the president of the University of Hawaii and the superintendent of education, or their designated representatives, who shall [~~be~~] service as ex-officio voting members of the authority [~~but shall not vote~~].

The inclusion of the UH President to the Stadium Authority Board originated out of the recognition that UH athletics was a primary anchor of the stadium and a foremost purpose for the stadium itself. This purpose remains a prominent component of the planned new stadium and the broader stadium district project. Having the UH President, or their designee, serve in a full capacity on the Stadium Authority will ensure that the broader project and eventual operation of the completed project has the governance input and involvement of one of the primary users and beneficiaries.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.