



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
February 15, 2022 at 3:05 p.m.

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

SB 91 SD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i (UH) opposes Senate Bill No. 91, Senate Draft 1, Relating to the University of Hawaii. This bill removes the exemption of all special funds of the UH as well as the Hawai'i Cancer Research Special Fund from the list of exempted special funds from the administrative fee imposed under Chapter 36-30, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS).

This bill will instantly increase the cost and expenses of all activities from the dozens of special funds within the UH. Chapter 36-30, HRS, relates to the administrative fee that is assessed on most non-general funds of the State of Hawai'i. The purpose of the fee is to have non-general funds pay towards the administrative services that are provided by general state government such as accounting, treasury management, human resources, procurement, etc. The reason that the UH special funds are exempted from this assessment under Chapter 36-30, HRS, is because UH provides its own administrative management of its special funds and has its own accounting, human resources, procurement, and treasury functions.

Removing the exemption from the central services fee does not serve any reasonable purpose and does not add any benefit to the UH. In fact, removing the exemption will only serve to increase the cost of UH operations and existing services that are performed by the special funds. This increased cost will result in higher rates for the UH's students and other recipients of these services with the additional money going into the state's General Fund for services that UH does not use.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



American Cancer Society  
Cancer Action Network  
2370 Nuʻuanu Avenue  
Honolulu, Hi 96817  
808.460.6109  
[www.fightcancer.org](http://www.fightcancer.org)

House Committee on Higher Education  
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: February 15, 2022

**ACS CAN OPPOSES SB 91 SD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

Cynthia Au, Government Relations Director– Hawaii Guam  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to OPPOSE SB91 SD1: RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII (UH) which removes the special funds of the University of Hawaii and the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund from the list of special funds that are exempt from the requirement to reimburse the Department of Budget and Finance for expenses incurred from administering the funds.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. We support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. We are concerned that there may be unintended consequences impacting support to clinical trial operations that could impact UH Cancer Center's designation as a National Cancer Institute (NCI).

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Hawai'i taking 2,500 lives each year. The UH Cancer Center is one of 71 research organizations in the U.S. designated by the National Cancer Institute and the only one in the Hawai'i Pacific region.<sup>1</sup> NCI Cancer Centers Program was created as part of the National Cancer Act of 1971 and is one of the anchors of the nation's cancer research effort. Through this program, NCI recognizes centers around the country that meet rigorous standards for transdisciplinary, state-of-the-art research focused on developing new and better approaches to preventing, diagnosing, and treating cancer.<sup>2</sup>

Currently UH Cancer Center has 134 clinical trials listed and usually have more than a hundred trials open at any given time. Over 15,000 people have enrolled in clinical studies over the last five years including more than 500 on therapeutic trials and an additional 1,800 on other interventional trials with UH Cancer

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<sup>1</sup> University of Hawaii Cancer Center <https://www.uhcancercenter.org/50years>

<sup>2</sup> NCI <https://www.cancer.gov/research/infrastructure/cancer-centers>

Center. The UH Cancer Center has attracted millions of dollars for cancer research to mitigate the impact on Pacific Islanders to address significant cancer health disparities in the Pacific.

Removing the exemption of the UH Cancer Center special fund would mean less support for Cancer Center operations affecting both facilities and staff supporting clinical trial operations. There will be less resources for the people of Hawai'i to prevent, diagnose, and treat cancers to improve cancer patient's quality of life.

Thank you for the opportunity to oppose this measure.

**LATE**

**SB-91-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:49:28 PM

Testimony for HRE on 2/15/2022 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Jenny Hausler	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Committee members,

I OPPOSE SB91 SD 1 Relating to the University of Hawaii.

While I thank the committee for supporting the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, as a community advocate for cancer patients and their families, I oppose eliminating any exemptions which financially support the UH Cancer Center and their activities as the only National Cancer Institute designated cancer center in the Pacific. The lives of our unique state and citizens here in Hawaii and Pacific territories are impacted by their difficult mission to save more lives from a terrible disease. Both of my late husbands and my late sister Lucinda Brower Molloy lost their lives to cancer. Inroads have been made by the Cancer Center and perhaps my loved ones would be alive today had more money been invested in the Cancer Center. Their work is invaluable here in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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