

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ÕNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance February 25, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. By Kalbert K. Young Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer University of Hawai'i System

HB 1168 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII REVENUE BONDS

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i (University) supports HB 1168 HD1, Relating to the University of Hawaii Revenue Bonds. This bill authorizes the Board of Regents to issue revenue bonds for the purpose of financing capital improvement projects.

This bill will provide authorization for the University to issue revenue bonds for capital projects but at an unspecified amount. Such authorization is pre-emptive should the University and/or Legislature identify projects that could be funded via revenue bonds up until June 30, 2030. At present, the University does not have any specific projects identified for revenue bonds. However, there are potential projects on the horizon that could utilize revenue bonds as the better source of financing and this legislative authority is necessary as initial step.

Should there be projects for revenue bonds in the future, they would require budget appropriation by the Legislature and approval by the Board or Regents and Governor.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.