

GM-624

Submitted on: 4/10/2025 5:26:56 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/17/2025 2:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chelsey Bryson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation to nominate Joshua Faumuina to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents. Joshua has a strong commitment to higher education, professional experience, and is connected to his community. Moreover, he believes in the role of the University of Hawai'i system as a public, research university and understands the university's educational, cultural, and economic importance to Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Brian Piotrowski
98-715 Iho Place
Apartment 1201
Aiea, HI 96701

April 10, 2025

Esteemed members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education,

I am writing you to voice my full-throated support of the nomination of Joshua Faumuina to the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. I have known Mr. Faumuina for nearly three years now as a fellow law student in the evening part-time ("EPT") program at the William S. Richardson School of Law. Throughout that time, Mr. Faumuina has demonstrated nothing but the utmost commitment to aiding his colleagues both in- and outside the classroom.

You may look no further than Mr. Faumuina's professional experience as an administrator at Kapi'olani Community College, where he has performed exceptionally while balancing the workload of an EPT law student. I can personally attest to the effort that this balancing act requires, and Mr. Faumuina has managed to pull this off with both grace and skill. This experience as a part-time student gives Mr. Faumuina a unique perspective that will be invaluable on the Board of Regents, as he has extensive experience both working and learning within the University of Hawai'i system.

Mr. Faumuina furthermore has demonstrated commitment to his fellow students above and beyond being a good friend and co-learner. He did so by serving on the law school's student government as a senator representing the EPT program. He was the only person in our cohort who was dedicated enough to run for the position, sacrificing what little precious free time we have as EPT students to ensure that our voice was heard in the larger law school community. This dedication to service and commitment to ensuring fair representation for all students will be critical on the Board of Regents.

I therefore wholeheartedly support the nomination of Joshua Faumuina to the Board of Regents and respectfully request that you pass GM624. I have no reservations nor doubts that Mr. Faumuina will serve honorably and admirably as a member of that august body. Thank you for your time, for giving me the opportunity to testify, and for your careful consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian O. Piotrowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a distinct loop for the letter 'i' and a sharp end for the 'k'.

Brian Owen Piotrowski

GM-624

Submitted on: 4/11/2025 5:52:02 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/17/2025 2:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Paloma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a current Regent, I fully support Student Regent Faumuina. He has been engaged and in direct conversations with student organizations and lends thoughtful student perspectives to our meetings. I appreciate his time and contributions to date. Mahalo, Regent Paloma

GM-624

Submitted on: 4/15/2025 9:55:15 AM

Testimony for HRE on 4/17/2025 2:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Miyahira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of the Governor's appointment of Joshu Faumuina as the Student Regent, to the University of Hawaii's Board of Regents.

Josh has served as an interim appointment for a number of months and I have found him to be very aware of his fiduciary responsibilities as a Regent. His thoughtful comments add to the discussion and he represents his student constituents well.

GM-624

Submitted on: 4/15/2025 8:16:45 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/17/2025 2:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Constance Casey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mr. Faumuina is the best nominee for the Hawaii board of regents. With his strong ideas of fairness and inclusivity, he will represent the best of Hawaii's college.

GM-624

Submitted on: 4/15/2025 8:38:48 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/17/2025 2:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wayne S. Higaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair Kim and Committee Members,

I'm submitting support for your positive consideration for Mr. Faumuina's confirmation of his nomination to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents (BOR). Mr. Faumuina has already demonstrated steady and positive contribution to the BOR since the first meeting he participated in this past year. He has consistently supported students' causes and interests as well as for the entire university system. Thank you for the support for Mr. Faumuina.

GM-624

Submitted on: 4/15/2025 8:53:04 PM

Testimony for HRE on 4/17/2025 2:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jenny Brown	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Jenny Brown, and I am a current undergraduate student within the University of Hawai'i System and a former member of the Kapi'olani Community College Student Congress.

I'm writing in strong and heartfelt support of GM624, regarding the appointment of Joshua Faumuina for a term on the Board of Regents through June 30, 2026.

I met Josh when I was doing undergraduate research and working as a peer mentor in the STEM program at Kapi'olani Community College in 2020. He worked on the grants that supported both of those opportunities. He did not hide away and do the bare minimum for his work with us like some people might. Instead, Josh consistently made himself available to us to help us understand our engineering projects, teach us a few CAD skills, or even just be a friendly face around campus. Those more human efforts made it easier to stick with our often difficult programs and showed us there were people in our school who cared about students doing well in every facet.

During Josh's time on Board of Regents so far, a moment that stuck with me was at a meeting this past year where a proposal to increase student housing rent was introduced. While many might have accepted or even rejected the discussion at face value, Josh didn't. He questioned the impact on students and tried to give the older regents some perspective on the realities of student finances. More importantly, he followed through on this conversation and physically visited the facilities in question to understand what students would be paying more for. I saw that and, as a student, felt heard. That small gesture—choosing to go see for himself—was not just consistent with what I know of his character but was also something I hope to see in any regent. He doesn't just represent us on paper; he carries the charge of our well-being with him in everything he does.

In a large system where student voices can often get lost, **Josh has been the bridge we need between students and administration.** He knows how to communicate, how to challenge, and how to advocate. His experience is wide-reaching, and his heart is fully in this work.

I strongly and sincerely urge you to confirm his appointment and support GM624. Josh has already made a significant impact, and I have no doubt he will continue to uplift, represent, and empower students across our university system.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.