



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
March 21, 2017 at 2:02 p.m.

By

Risa E. Dickson, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy
University of Hawai'i System

HCR 88/HR50 – REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PHILIPPINES-HAWAII TOURISM COLLEGE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM COMPACT

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem and members of the committee:

HCR 88/HR 50 requests the establishment of a Philippines-Hawai'i tourism college student exchange program compact among the University of Hawai'i (UH) Mānoa, West O'ahu, select UH community colleges, and Ilocos Sur Community College and the University of Northern Philippines, and a report before the 2018 Hawai'i Legislature on the number of students participating, assessment of the compact, and recommended legislation to improve the compact.

The University of Hawai'i joins the legislature in recognizing the many contributions of the Filipino immigrants from Ilocos Sur and their descendants since arriving in Hawai'i in 1906. We celebrate the long sister state relationship between Hawai'i and Ilocos Sur, reaching 33 years in 2018, the first sister state established between Hawai'i and a province in the Philippines. The University also congratulates the province of Ilocos Sur on the occasion of its bicentennial anniversary in February 2018.

The University of Hawai'i lauds the intent of HCR88/HR50 to strengthen educational ties among our institutions. UH respectfully points out that it is unrealistic to establish, implement, and assess an educational exchange compact within six months.

The UH System Office of the Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy would be willing to participate in an exploratory group with the UH campuses named in HCR 88/HR 50 to examine the feasibility of tourism programs of mutual benefit and to identify academic requirements and needed resources this programming would entail.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony on HCR 88/HR 50.



LATE

Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 88 & HR 50 House Committee on Higher Education March 21, 2017, 2:01 p.m., Conference Room 309

To: Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey and Vice Chair Mark J. Hashem
Members of House Committee on Higher Education

From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDA
President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.

Subject: Requesting the establishment of a Philippines-Hawai'i Tourism
College student exchange compact

I am proud to submit our support for this bill. My name is Beatrice Ramos-Razon. I am testifying as the founder and president of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.). NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people through education, mentoring, advocacy and service.

I am a registered voter and constituent in District 32, Salt Lake. I work in Senate District 9 as a Kapi'olani Community College nursing faculty. Through NAMI I serve as a community research partner and mentor University of Hawai'i Filipino students. They are first to go to college in their family, low income, and under-represented in higher education. Most of their parents are immigrants working in the service industry in low paying jobs with little job security. In spite of their humble beginnings, I have seen firsthand, their successful track record of student achievement.

Likewise, these resolutions would be of benefit for all students at the University of Hawai'i to tap on the potential growth of the visitor industry for both Hawai'i and the Philippines.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos Razon, RN, FACDA, President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 88 & HR 50
House Committee on Higher Education
March 21, 2017, 2:01 p.m., Conference Room 309

LATE

To: Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey and Vice Chair Mark J. Hashem
Members of House Committee on Higher Education

From: Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

Subject: Requesting the establishment of a Philippines-Hawai'i Tourism College student exchange compact

My name is Jake Manegdeg. As president of the Filipino American Citizens League, I am proud to submit our full support of this bill. The Filipino American Citizens League was formed over twenty years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

We support these resolutions because they offer economic opportunities for all students in Hawai'i to build up the visitor industry that will be beneficial to both Hawai'i and the Philippines.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this bill.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League



LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 88 & HR 50
House Committee on Higher Education
March 21, 2017, 2:01 p.m., Conference Room 309

To: Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey and Vice Chair Mark J. Hashem
Members of House Committee on Higher Education

From: Charlene Cuaresma, Chair, NaFFAA Region 12
National Federation of Filipino American Associations Region 12

Subject: Requesting the establishment of a Philippines-Hawai'i Tourism College student exchange compact

I am happy to support this bill. My name is Charlene Cuaresma, Chair, NaFFAA Region 12, which represents the interests of Filipinos in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. We are an affiliate of the National NaFFAA. Washington policy-makers, private industry and national advocacy groups recognize NaFFAA as the Voice of Filipinos and Filipino Americans throughout the United States. We are a non-partisan, non-profit national affiliation of more than five hundred Filipino-American institutions and umbrella organizations that span twelve regions throughout the continental United States and U.S. Pacific territories.

These resolutions present a good opportunity for building the capacity of Hawai'i to not only build goodwill, cultural understanding, and strengthen international relationships, but also forge partnerships for socially responsible and prosperous, mutually beneficial economic endeavors.

Thank you for for the opportunity to offer support for this resolution.

Sincerely,

Charlene Cuaresma, Chair, NaFFAA Region 12

Late Testimony

Higher Education Committee
2:02 March 21, 2017

Testimony in support HCR 88
Testimony submitted by
Amy Agbayani, chair
Filipino-American Advocacy Network (FAN)
3432 B-1 Kalihi St. Honolulu, Hi 96819

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem and members of the
committee

I am representing, Filipino-Americans Advocacy Network in strong support of HCR88/HR 50 Requesting the establishment of a Philippines-Hawai'i Tourism College Student Exchange Program Compact. FAN advocates for equity and education. Filipinos are now the second largest group in the state and the public schools. They are adequately represented among the Community Colleges and most under-represented at Manoa. Providing opportunities for student exchange programs will benefit UH students and students at Ilocos Sur Community College and the University of Northern Philippines. It will also benefit tourism and other economic activities.

We request you approve HCR88/HR 50.

LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 88 & HR 50
House Committee on Higher Education
March 21, 2017, 2:01 p.m., Conference Room 309

To: Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey and Vice Chair Mark J. Hashem
Members of House Committee on Higher Education

From: Davelyn Quijano, Private Citizen

Subject: Requesting the establishment of a Philippines-Hawai'i Tourism College student exchange compact

I strongly oppose this bill. I am speaking as a private citizen. My name is Davelyn Quijano, president of the Sinait National High School Alumni Association of Hawaii. Our alumni association was established in 1995 and has grown to 60 members in Hawaii. I also serve as the secretary of the Anak ti Sinait of Hawai'i (Children of Sinait). Our alumni association prides itself in volunteerism both in Hawaii and the Philippines, where we perpetuate our culture, join in disaster relief efforts, finance medical missions to the Philippines, foster good health through outreach programs to our Filipino community, empower our youth through scholarship programs, offer aid to deceased members and their beneficiaries, and engage network opportunities to contribute successfully to Hawaii's economy through entrepreneurship.

I support these resolutions because they will benefit our state economy and utilize the University of Hawai'i to optimize the languages, cultures and international business opportunities for students, who are our future leaders.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support.

Warmest regards,

Davelyn Quijano