

April 11, 2022

Testimony to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

Re: SCR 132

Dear Chair Cedric Asuega, Vice Chair Adrian Tam, and members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs:

We are Filipinx/a/o students representing the Samahang Filipino Club at Hawai'i Community College in Hilo. **We submit this testimony in strong support of SCR 132**, requesting the University of Hawai'i to Report on the Pamantasan Council's System Wide Efforts to Improve the Status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i. **We are urging you to support this measure.**

We support the request to have the UH system report on efforts to improve the status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i because there are many needs that Filipino students have that should be addressed. One of the issues is that although the majority of Filipino students in the UH system are at the community college, and we are the second largest ethnic group in Hawai'i, there are no courses available for us to learn about our history or culture at our campus. To make up for this, we have created a student club, however, it is difficult to maintain the club without the support of courses that can complement the mission of the club.

During COVID-19, Filipino courses offered at Leeward CC have become accessible to us, since they became offered online. We hope that if this measure passes, efforts to make Leeward CC's Philippine Studies Certificate program available online, across the UHCC system as a hub and spoke can be supported. We feel that every student should be given the opportunity to learn about Filipino history, culture, and social issues and that our General Education and graduation requirements should be inclusive of Filipino curriculum. We hope that initiatives such as these can be supported and that funds can be allocated to replace the full-time, tenure track position teaching Filipino Studies at Leeward CC to support the program's expansion to serve the needs of Filipinx/a/o students like us, across the UHCC system.

Many of our Filipinx/a/o students experience shame in their identity, experience mental health challenges, lack adequate representation in our curriculum, and need greater resources to support and encourage our transfer to the 4-year UH system. We hope that this measure will help to ensure that the UH system continues to address the needs of Filipinx/a/o students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by

Rachael Uyeshiro, Vice President of the Samahang Club of Hawai'i Community College

Stecy Dingle, Secretary of the Samahang Club of Hawai'i Community College



Testimony in support of SCR 132

submitted by Amy Agbayani, co-chair Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights

Mahalo for hearing this resolution and I respectfully request you approve it.

The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights supports programs and policies that ensure equal access, diversity and inclusion. HF CR strongly supports SCR 132 requesting UH to report on the Pamantasan Council's systemwide efforts to improve the status of Filipinos at the UH.

Filipinos have been in Hawai'i for 116 years; Filipino students are the largest ethnic group in the public schools and every fourth individual in our state is of Filipino ancestry. Unfortunately there are few courses about Filipinos in Hawai'i, Philippine languages, culture and history at most campuses; faculty and graduate students continue to be underrepresented. It should be noted that the transfer rate to four year campuses continues to be low.

HF CR supports this resolution requesting UH to report on the systemwide Pamantasan's efforts to improve the status and representation of Filipinos in the curriculum, faculty, staff and students. These objectives are consistent with the university's mission of teaching, research and service to the state. We thank the legislature for passing Act 266 in 2019 for providing 2 positions and funds for the Pamantasan Council. We support the request to UH to provide a report on the Pamantasan Council's activities, funding and plans.

I want to express my appreciation to the Filipino Senate and House caucus for introducing this resolution

Amy Agbayani, Co-chair

Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 10:00 AM



April 11, 2022

To: Chair Gate, Vice-Chair Tam, and Committee Members

From: Tinalak Filipino Education Council, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, College of Education

Subject: Support for SCR132/SR116

The Tinalak Filipino Education Council **strongly supports SCR132/SR116** Requesting The University of Hawaii to Report on the Pamantasan Council's Systemwide Efforts to Improve the Status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i (UH).

Tinalak Council was established in 2012 to serve as an advisory council to the Dean of UH Mānoa College of Education (COE). We are composed of the COE's tenure and non-tenure track Filipino faculty and doctoral students. Our mission is to inspire and weave together Hawaii's new generation of educators through the recruitment and support of Filipinos in the education field.

Despite Filipinos being the largest ethnic student population in the HIDOE at 23.4%, Filipino students represent only 10.6% of undergraduate students and 5.4% of graduate students at the UHM. We believe the passing of **SCR132/SR116** is a first step in increasing the representation of Filipino students and faculty at the UH. This resolution will contribute resources to help the Pamantasan Council's efforts with understanding why Filipinos are not enrolling at UH, and continue organizing conferences and activities that help retain Filipino students enrolled at the UH. In addition, we believe annual reporting as a result of **SCR132/SR116** will show the need for more Filipino faculty. At the UH Mānoa College of Education (COE), Filipinos are underrepresented among the COE faculty. Only 5 of 174 faculty members are of Filipino descent. Two of five faculty are untenured despite having over ten years of service and doctoral degrees. Retaining Filipino faculty is critical for building the next generation of teachers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 5:10:54 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marnelli Joy Ulep	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and Members of the Committee Representatives Har, Kapela, Nishimoto, Yamane, and Ward.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SCR 132. As a member of the Hawaii community and the daughter of Filipino immigrants, I submit this testimony in support of SCR 132 requesting UH to report on the Pamantasan Council system wide efforts to improve the status of Filipinos throughout the UH system.

Through my experience working in community organizations and in education, I see the value of perspectives and representation throughout all aspects of learning, mentoring, and empowerment that occur in higher education. Filipinos have and continue to make an impact on the state of Hawaii which makes the need for further representation of Filipinos as student, faculty, and staff, and in the curriculum, important. The creation of a report will reinforce the attention to the Pamantasan Council's efforts to address and advocate for representation of Filipinos in the UH system.

Thank you for your consideration.

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 8:59:31 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Halagao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a Professor at the University of Hawaii, Manoa College of Education. I am testifying as an individual and do not represent the University of Hawaii.

I strongly support SCR132/SR116. The Pamantasan resolution will create systemic conditions that will lead to the equitable representation and success of Filipino faculty and staff at the University of Hawaii, ultimately benefitting Filipino students in the State of Hawaii. Thank you for your support.

April 11, 2022

Testimony to the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs

Re: SCR 132

Dear Chair Cedric Asuega Gates, Vice Chair Adrian Tam, and members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs:

My name is Jeanne Batallones and **I submit this testimony in strong support of SCR 132**, requesting the University of Hawai'i to Report on the Pamantasan Council's Systemwide Efforts to Improve the Status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i. **I am urging you to support these measures.**

I am a Counselor at a UH Community College and a member of the UH Pamantasan Council. I have worked as a counselor within the UH system for the last seven years, and as a community college counselor for the last 14 years. I provide my testimony on behalf of myself as an Filipina educator and community advocate.

Although Filipinos are 25% of the state's population and the second largest ethnic group in Hawai'i, as a community, we are not adequately represented in the UHCC curriculum and are not transferring to the 4-year institutions at proportionate rates. Recent studies have shown that COVID-19 has had significant impacts on Filipino's economically. The impacts of COVID-19 have also directly impacted resources previously allocated to support Filipino students as the sole tenured faculty position assigned to the only Philippine Studies program in the UHCC system at Leeward CC was swept and funds allocated from the 2019 Pamantasan Bill were discontinued, as a result of COVID-19 budget restrictions.

Filipinos are the second largest ethnic group in Hawai'i yet continue to be socio economically and educationally disadvantaged. A 2020 UH report, "COVID-19 and Job Loss: Who are the Workers Most Affected in Hawai'i?" shows Filipinos are among the top workers impacted by COVID-19 job loss, as Filipinos are disproportionately overrepresented in Hawai'i's lowest paid and most vulnerable employment sectors. According to 2018 Census data, among Filipinos aged 25 or older, only 32.3% have some college or associate's degree, 15.4% earned a Bachelor's degree, and 3.7% earned a Graduate or professional degree; well below the state average of 20.4% for a bachelor's and 10.5% graduate degree earners.

Within the UH system, Filipinos are overrepresented in the community college system and not transferring. According to UHIRO 2019 data, out of the total 6,828 Filipinos in the UH system, the majority (63%) are enrolled in the UH community college (UHCC) system and are highly unlikely to transfer to the 4-year UH campuses (Libarios, 2013).

Data from 2018–2019 obtained from the UH Institutional Research Office have shown disproportionate rates of Filipino degree completion have continued to persist, especially at the graduate degree levels (UHIRO, 2019). According to these data, 12% of all Filipino students attending the 4-year UH campus earned a baccalaureate degree, 4% earned a master's degree, and 1% earned a doctoral degree. In comparison, 31% of Caucasian students and 25% of Japanese students earned a master's degree, while 44% of Caucasian students earned a doctorate degree.

UHCC Filipino Curriculum Gap

The 4-year UH campuses offer most of the courses related to the Philippines or Filipinos. However, the target population of UHCC students, where the majority of Filipinos are enrolled, do not have access to these courses. Among the UHCCs, Leeward Community College offers the most courses dedicated solely to the Philippine and Filipino experience, with the only academic subject certificate in Philippine Studies. Other UHCCs that offer Filipino or Ilokano language courses are Maui College and Kapi'olani Community College. Among the seven UHCCs, Hawai'i Community College, Kaua'i Community College, and Windward Community College did not list any courses focused solely on the Philippines or Filipinos.

While COVID-19 has had significant negative impacts to the Filipino community, new opportunities have arisen, such as the shift to virtual modalities and the proposal of hub and spoke programs within the UHCC system, to avoid curriculum duplication and planned methods of shared online delivery options.

It is hoped that by reporting on UH efforts to address Filipino educational equity gaps, direct support for efforts such as the modification and expansion of Leeward Community College's Philippine Studies Certificate program to serve as a "hub" which can offer Filipino courses online to "spoke" campuses across the UHCC system and funding to replace the only tenure track faculty position teaching Philippine Studies in the UHCC system at Leeward CC, will be restored.

For the reasons stated above and towards the goal of addressing Filipino curricular and transfer gaps in the UHCC system, I strongly urge you to support this measure to request a report on the progress of the UH system to address the needs of Filipino students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanne Batallones, Ed.D

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/11/2022 9:08:23 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Phillippe Rivera Fernandez-Brennan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Date: Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Conference Room 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

April 11, 2022

Dear Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and members of the Committee:

I am sending testimony in strong support of SCR 132, REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I TO REPORT ON THE PAMANTASAN COUNCIL'S SYSTEMWIDE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF FILIPINOS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

My name is Phillippe Fernandez-Brennan and I am a PhD student in Education: Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), member of the UHM College of Education Tinalak Council and council member of the College of Education Doctoral Student Association (COEDSA). I have also taught in the Hawai'i public schools for the past 8 years. I am testifying as an individual and do not represent the University of Hawai'i nor the Hawai'i Department of Education.

I strongly support SCR 132 because Filipinos are the largest non-White and Asian ethnic group in Hawai'i, with 25% of the population identifying as Filipino. The majority of Filipinos in Hawai'i are Ilokano, coming from the Northern region of the Philippines. Despite a strong

presence in Hawai'i since 1906 and significant contributions to the fabric of Hawai'i, Filipinos as a community, continue to struggle socially, politically and economically.

Filipinos in Hawai'i have undergone what is interpreted by scholars as a "process of cultural and ethnic disidentification," a denial of their heritage and embrace of the dominant ideologies of a local identity while being aware of their marginalization and the lack of social benefits for being Filipino.

At the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM), 2021 data showed that Filipinos accounted for only 5.9% of faculty at the UHM. Data from 2016 indicates the same trend of Filipinos accounting for only 2.6% of the entire UHM faculty. At the College of Education (COE), Filipinos are disproportionately underrepresented among the COE faculty with only 5 of 174 faculty members of 2.8% having Filipino heritage.

Fall 2021 data indicates that Filipinos are underrepresented at the College of Education as teacher candidates and graduate students. Filipinos represented only 11% of teacher candidates and 7.6% of graduate students at the COE. As the highest producing licensure Education Preparation Program (EPP) in Hawai'i, this low number of Filipino teacher candidates consequently leads to under-representation of Filipino teachers and administrators employed in the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE). The most recent data in 2021 shows that Filipinos have one of the lowest representations of teachers (7.4%) and administrators (5.1%) employed by the HIDOE. This is problematic because Filipino youth represent the majority of the students in Hawai'i public schools. I argue that there is a link between the underrepresentation of Filipino teachers and administrators and lack of Filipino curriculum to persistent low performance, low achievement and lack of success among Filipino students at Hawai'i K-12 public schools.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Phillippe R. Fernandez-Brennan

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 12:28:39 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlene Bumanglag, PhD	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Chair Asuega Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SCR132 on REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I TO REPORT ON THE PAMANTASAN COUNCIL'S SYSTEMWIDE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF FILIPINOS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

My name is Charlene Bumanglag, and I am testifying as an individual; I do not represent the University of Hawai'i.

Filipinos (part- and full-) are the largest non-white majority in the state of Hawai'i composing more than 25% of the population. While reports on the status of Filipino students exist, less is known about executives, faculty, and staff. To begin, **Filipinos are the most underrepresented faculty at the flagship R1 institute, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.** Filipinos only compose of about 3.3% of all full-time faculty, and only about 2.6% of all tenured faculty (Fall 2020). This underrepresentation of Filipino faculty demonstrates the wide inequities in the workforce, which has major implications for the entire UH system and the state of Hawai'i. *Internal Impact:* The underrepresentation of Filipino faculty means that there is less (or no) representation of Filipino faculty at the table to engage and inform in the critical decision-making processes that determine: 1. visibility in key University reports including on accreditation and strategic planning, as well as in the 2. allocation of resources for course offerings; programs of research; and in recruitment, retention, and advancement of students, staff, faculty, and executives. This faculty underrepresentation has had (and continues to have) a direct and indirect impact on **timely** research, teaching, and service within the University and externally to the Hawai'i community. *External Impact:* The tragic outcome is that Filipinos are overrepresented in morbidities and mortalities. COVID-19 is a key example: **Filipinos have the highest number of cases and highest numbers of deaths to COVID-19 in the state of Hawai'i.**

A comprehensive report on the status of Filipinos can guide with UH's decision making processes, and the allocation of resources. The overarching impact is that Hawai'i can have a more robust and equitable workforce equipped to serve its people and effectively respond to societal emergencies, like COVID-19, with populations that are most vulnerable. I strongly support SCR 132 for the University of Hawai'i to report on the Pamantasan Council's systemwide efforts to improve the status of Filipinos throughout the University of Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify along with your time and consideration.

Charlene Bumanglag, PhD

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 6:41:05 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Ching	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Culture, Arts, & International

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 10:00 am

By Doris Ching, Emeritus Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Hawai'i System

SCR 132 REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO REPORT ON THE PAMANTASAN COUNCIL'S SYSTEMWIDE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF FILIPINOS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, Members of the Committee Representatives Har, Kapela, Nishimoto, Yamane, Ward:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SCR 132. I am testifying as a concerned individual and member of the Hawai'i community. Having had the privilege over five decades of teaching in K-12 education with the Hawai'i Department of Education at Kalakaua Middle School, August Ahrens School, and Kawanakoa Middle School as well as serving higher education at the University of Hawai'i as Vice President for Student Affairs at UH-Mānoa and the UH System, and other positions including Interim Chancellor at UH-West O'ahu, I personally observed the educational and representation shortcomings relative to students and professionals of Filipino ethnicity within Hawai'i's K-12 and higher education systems. In my roles as UH faculty and administrator, I supported the objectives and work of the Pamantasan Council which collaboratively addresses underrepresentation, equity, and campus diversity. I concur with the assertions in SCR 132. I believe a report will prompt the University of Hawai'i to give greater recognition of the Pamantasan Council's efforts and facilitate improvement to overcome the current shortcomings. I, therefore, strongly support SCR 132 Requesting the University of Hawai'i to Report on the Pamantasan Council's Systemwide Efforts to Improve the Status of Filipinos at the UH.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 8:11:18 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosela Balinbin Santos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 12, 2022

Dear Chair Cedric Gates, Vice Chair Adrian Tam and House Members of the Committee on Culture, Arts and International Affairs:

My name is Rosela Balinbin Santos, and I am an Assistant Professor in the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM). While I draw from my professional knowledge and experience, I am testifying as an individual and do not represent the UHM.

I strongly support SCR132 Requesting The University of Hawaii to Report on the Pamantasan Council's Systemwide Efforts to Improve the Status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai‘i (UH).

This resolution will contribute resources to support the Pamantasan Council's efforts to proceed with annual reporting as a result of SCR132. This will show the need for more Filipino faculty systemwide. As a faculty member at the COE/UHM, Filipinos are underrepresented among the faculty. By passing this resolution, it will be a step toward increasing the representation of faculty across the UH.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Wednesday, April 13, 2022, 10:00 AM
Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

April 13, 2022

Dear Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, & International Affairs,

My name is Nicole Alia Salis Reyes and I am an Associate Professor in the College of Education at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. While I draw on my professional knowledge and expertise, I am testifying as an individual and do not represent the University of Hawai'i.

I strongly support SCR 132 requesting the University of Hawai'i to report on the Pamantasan Council's systemwide efforts to improve the status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i.

As a Kanaka Maoli and Filipina woman, a scholar of higher education, and the first in my father's family to earn a college degree, I am deeply interested in issues of Indigeneity, diversity, equity, and inclusion. There is a noticeable educational outcome gap when it comes to Filipinos in Hawai'i. Whereas Filipinos comprise 25 percent of the total population of Hawai'i and 23.4 percent of all students enrolled in HIDOE schools, they are underrepresented at all levels in the UH System. Currently, Filipinos comprise only 17.4 percent of students enrolled in the UH community colleges, 12.3 percent of undergraduates enrolled in UH four-year institutions, and 5.5 percent of graduate students enrolled in UH four-year institutions. Those numbers continue to shrink when we look at the representation of Filipinos among faculty and staff in the UH. Across the UH System, only 8.9 percent of all faculty and staff, 5.9 percent of all faculty, and 2.9 percent of all tenure and tenure-track instructional faculty identify as Filipino. I very much feel this underrepresentation even in my own college, the College of Education at UH Mānoa, where only five out of a total of 188 faculty identify as Filipino. Of my colleagues, some are in temporary positions that have become increasingly precarious during this time of the pandemic. These conditions make it difficult for us to be able to do the work that many of us strive so desperately to do, to prepare educators and to do research that will contribute to more socially just, culturally sustaining, and academically excellent educational institutions in Hawai'i.

Whereas the Pamantasan Council was formed in 1987 to review the status of and to advocate for Filipinos in the University of Hawai'i System, it is clear from the statistics above that their/our work is not done. Two dedicated full-time equivalent positions could provide an important start toward the work of the Pamantasan Council. Yet while funds were appropriated for these positions in 2019, they have not been filled due to pandemic budget restrictions. It is time for the State and for the University of Hawai'i to revisit their commitments in this regard.

If we want Hawai'i to thrive now and into the future, then we need Hawai'i to be a place where Filipinos, one of Hawai'i's largest ethnic groups, can thrive. Higher education plays a vital role in this. SCR 132 can provide a first step in thinking about the University of Hawai'i's commitment to serving Hawai'i's Filipino community. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Nicole Alia Salis Reyes

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 8:57:16 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leon Florendo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and members of the committee,

My name is Leon Fuimaono Florendo I am counselor at Leeward Community College Waianae Moku and *I am testifying as an individual* and do not represent the University of Hawaii.

I strongly support **SCR 132/SSCR 3639** REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO REPORT ON THE PAMANTASAN COUNCIL'S SYSTEMWIDE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE STATUS OF FILIPINOS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

I support **SCR 132/SSCR 3639** because I believe that we need to finish what was started back in 2019 with Act 266 but was cut short because of Covid19 pandemic. Also to advocate for my three children who are part of the 23.4 percent of Hawaii's public-school students who are of Filipino heritage and consist of the largest ethnic group in the Hawaii Department of Education system. Additionally, Filipinos in Hawaii represent the largest ethnic group in the state due to historical forces that initially brought Filipino Sakadas and their families since the early 1900's. Today, 25% of Hawaii's population are of Filipino heritage and are major contributors to the state's economy and social, multicultural productivity.

In closing, your support of **SCR 132/SSCR 3639** will ensure that the University of Hawaii Pamantasan Council will continue to strive to create educational opportunities for all students to learn about the rich Filipino history, identity, and cultural heritage.

Salamat po, Leon F. Florendo

April 12, 2022

Testimony to the Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs

Re: SCR 132/SSCR 3639

To the Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs:

My name is Dr. Wayland Quintero. I offer this testimony as a Filipino American educator raised in Hawai'i and a family man who works primarily with students of Filipino ethnicity. I urge you to support **SCR 132/SSCR 3639** requesting the University of Hawai'i to Report on the Pamantasan Council's System Wide Efforts to Improve the Status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i.

A number of studies show that the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought significant economic impacts upon Filipinos especially here in Hawai'i. The pandemic shutdown has also taken away resources that were already allocated to support students of Filipino ethnicity. Funds allocated in the 2019 Pamantasan Bill for two positions were discontinued due to the pandemic. Restoring the positions in the Pamantasan 2019 bill, will go a long way toward fulfilling educational equity gaps.

I strongly urge you to support the request for a report on the progress of the UH system to address the needs of Filipino students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wayland Quintero".

Wayland Quintero, PhD, MFA

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 9:38:41 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorenzo Perillo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

April 12, 2022

Dear Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and House Members of the

Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs:

My name is Dr. Lorenzo Perillo and I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am testifying as an individual and do not represent the University of Hawai'i.

I strongly support SCR 132 requesting the University of Hawai'i to report on the Pamantasan council's systemwide efforts to improve the status of Filipinos at the University of Hawai'i

I support SCR 132 because it is long overdue to improve the status of Filipinos at UH.

Filipinos make up 25% of the population in Hawai'i and yet are under-represented in the field of education. Filipinos comprise 23.4% of the student population according to the 2019-2020 HIDOE data report and while they had high graduation rates (91%), they had low college-going rates (54%). Moreover, two of the three most frequently reported non-English languages spoken at home in Hawai'i - Ilocano and Tagalog. As an alumnus of public schools throughout primary, secondary, and higher education, I firmly believe that all students are entitled to an equitable and

high quality education. My own ethnic studies education in higher education at UC Berkeley on Filipino history, culture, and identity, provided me with a sense of pride, self-worth, and sense of belonging that helped challenge the legacy of colonialism and discrimination I faced as young Filipino boy. Knowing the long history of Filipino contributions to society, the value systems that were strengthen Filipino identity formation, and the shared struggles with other ethnic and cultural groups can provide an immeasurably positive impact on all students in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorenzo Perillo

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 10:22:39 AM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria V Lanzona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony as a concerned individual of the state. But as a member of faculty at the University of Hawaii-Manoa, I fully support this bill to strengthen the role of the Pamantasan council across US campuses. Being the largest ethnic community in the State of Hawaii, Filipinos need to have more representation in the education system where we not only train teachers in Hawaii but also educated the future Filipino leaders in Hawaii. The Pamantasan Council will ensure that this community will be well-represented and will advocate for more course offerings on Philippine studies and culture and also serve the needs of the Filipino faculty and students. We need more Filipino faculty across the UH system as they not only represent a major constituency in the state, but also know the needs of the community intimately. The best way to respond to these needs is to support the Pamantasan Council.

SCR-132

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 11:27:18 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ikaika Hussey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice-Chair Tam, and members of the Committee:

As a citizen of Filipino, Native Hawaiian, and Haole parentage, and as a proud UH alum, I'd like to submit my support for this measure. We will all benefit from a more diverse and representative UH faculty and staff. Mahalo to the Pamantasan Council's work on this issue, and to this committee for your consideration of this measure.

Mahalo

Ikaika Hussey
Kalihi Valley