

# Selective Service System

# Hawaii Headquarters

# Testimony to House Committee on Finance

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

# RE: House Bill 52 RELATING TO SELECTIVE SERVICE AWARENESS AND COMPLIANCE

I am Andrew Pepper, State Director for the United States Selective Service System. My role is to ensure young men in Hawaii ages 18 through 25 register with the Selective Service, as required by law. This helps ensure they do not lose valuable Federal benefits linked to the registration requirement and helps ensure that any future military draft is fair and equitable to the residents of Hawaii. In the very unlikely event the draft is resumed, we want it to be the fairest and most equitable in our Nation's history. It is important to remember that every young man who fails to register, as legally required, increases a law-abiding man's chances of being drafted.

The Selective Service System supports the passage of HB 52 because it will unquestionably increase registration compliance in Hawaii. Although Hawaii has legislation that automatically registers young men with Selective Service when they get a driver's license, only 73 percent of 18-year-old men in Hawaii have registered with Selective Service. Young men in this critical age group are often the very ones who are seeking to further their post-secondary education, as well as seeking State and County employment.

And, they are also often seeking federal benefits linked to the registration requirement. These benefits include: Federal employment, Federal student financial assistance; participation in Federally-funded job training programs; and eligibility for U.S. citizenship for immigrants.

HB52 is not designed or intended to deny anyone access to State benefits or jobs; it is simply a way to create more opportunities for young men to discover that they are not in compliance with the registration requirement of the Military Selective Service Act and, at that time, correct their non-compliance as part of their student enrollment process, their student loan process, or their government job application process. Basically, HB52 is an attempt to create an additional safety net to help young men (who may be out of compliance with the Selective Service registration requirement) realize their status and be brought into compliance, thereby preserving their federal rights and benefits.

Thirty States and Territories around the Nation have already passed this type of legislation. The goal is to have the remaining States adopt this type of legislation as soon as possible. By passing HB 52--to link eligibility for State supported post-secondary educational institutions, state student financial aid, and eligibility for state or county employment--it will further increase the registration compliance rate in Hawaii. It will also further remind young men in Hawaii of their civic and patriotic obligation to contribute to the defense of our country in a national emergency.

In closing, passing HB 52 will help ensure that the young men of Hawaii do not lose valuable Federal benefits linked to the registration requirement, ensures that any future draft is fair and equitable as possible, and will help

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 2:00 pm
By Dr. Jan Javinar
Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Hawai'i

HB 52 HD1 – RELATING TO THE SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION AWARENESS AND COMPLIANCE ACT

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

HB 52 HD1 codifies the US Military Selective Service Act (50 USC App 451) into Hawaii Revised Statutes. By doing so, state law will subsequently require college applicants to comply with the provisions of the Military Selective Service Act in order to:

- (1) Be eligible for enrollment in a state-supported institution of higher education;
- (2) Qualify for state financial assistance for post-secondary education; and
- (3) Be eligible for state or county employment or service.

The intent of HB 52 HD1 is laudable; however, the University has concerns about its operational impacts and programmatic concerns related to enrollment and financial resources.

All individuals who apply for federal financial aid through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are data matched through the Selective Service confirmation process and males are afforded the option to automatically register for Selective Service. This FAFSA information is downloaded to the University's student information system. Since not all high school graduates venture into higher education nor apply for federal financial aid, the yield to the US Military Selective Service may not be as high as anticipated. Perhaps, the yields would be greater if all age appropriate males would comply with the requirements *prior to graduating from high school*.

For college admissions purposes, the University does not currently require confirmation of compliance before admitting applicants. Doing so will require the University admissions offices to secure and retain a verification from the student applicant that he has registered with the Selective Service. This requirement will delay the individual's college selection decision-making and may deter an applicant from entering the University, encouraging him to seek admissions at non University of Hawaii institutions where the requirement to confirm registration prior to admission may be non-existent.

In gauging the practices across the country, the University was only able to confirm that the University of Texas System has a requirement for proof of Selective Service registration tied to receiving federal and state aid. There does not appear to be a similar requirement for admissions to one of the campuses of the University of Texas

System. This echoes the Hawai'i Attorney General's indication that only eight states have laws rendering males not in compliance with selective service registration to be ineligible for college attendance. The wisdom of conditioning enrollment in public post-secondary education upon registration with selective service is not universally shared across the nation's public institutions of higher education.

Should HB 52 HD1 pass, there will be major impacts on the workload of frontline operations, involving the altering of computerized and manual workflows to the University admissions and financial aid application processes. This will involve overtime and/or the need for additional human resources to comply. HB 52 has the potential of affecting student enrollments negatively which will have a consequential impact on the quality of student life as well as the financial resources available on the University's campuses. Finally, the bill's applicability to continuing students (i.e. those already enrolled) will require ample planning, foresight, and anticipation to minimize disruption in their continued enrollment and persistence.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure. The University understands the intent of this bill, and is concerned about its impact on operations, workflow, and enrollment.

#### FIN-Jo

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 11:37 AM

To: FINTestimony bianca@kahea.org

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

#### **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Bianca Isaki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please vote against HB52.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:02 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: adecosta808@icloud.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM



#### **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea DeCosta	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this measure and remind the legislature that there were no weapons of mass destruction found in Iraq, so we need to think long and hard before we send our sons and daughters into another war. The US military does not make Hawai'i more safe, it makes us less safe, the bill itself is antiquated and sexist in that it targets young men and does nothing to require that women serve their country. For these reasons and for the fact that war is a terrible way to resolve problems, please do not subject more young men to required registration this bill - mahalo!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 6:45 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: patriciablair@msn.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

# **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Are you kidding? An absurd idea.

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February 25, 2015 Rm. 308, 2:00 p.m.

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair

Members of the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

From: Linda Hamilton Krieger, Chair

and Commissioners of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission



Re: H.B. No. 52, H.D.1

The Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai'i's laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services. The HCRC carries out the Hawai'i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights.

Article I, section 5 of the Hawai'i Constitution provides:

No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor be denied the equal protection of the laws, nor be denied the enjoyment of the person's civil rights or be discriminated against in the exercise thereof because of race, religion, sex, or ancestry.

(emphasis added).

The HCRC strongly opposes H.B. No. 52, H.D.1, because it codifies sex discrimination into state law.

H.B. No. H.B. No. 52, H.D.1, if enacted, will prohibit *males* who fail to register with the Selective Service System from: enrolling at, or receiving education from, any campus of the University of Hawai'i System; receiving state educational financial assistance; and being eligible for state employment or service. On its face, because the federal Selective Service Act only applies to males, the proposed prohibition is limited to males. It imposes a discriminatory burden on men that does not apply to women.

The HCRC strongly opposes H.B. No. 52, H.D.1, and urges the Committee to hold the bill.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 7:45 PM

To: FINTestimony Cc: ja@malu-aina.org

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM



#### **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Jim Albertini	Malu 'Aina	Oppose	No

Comments: Our organization strongly opposes this bill as highly discriminatory against males and it coerces people toward militarism to receive basic state services, including education. I suggest the first to be required to sign up and be drafted in war should be government elected officials, and their wives and children. It might just be a good way to put an end to war. Aloha. Jim Albertini

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:32 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM



#### **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Oppose. This bill is unconstitutional if it only applies to young men.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:37 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: ileanahaunani@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

#### **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Ileana Ruelas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this measure. It is unacceptable/unconstitutional to force potential students who are unable to afford school - to sign up for the military - in order to become eligible for much needed financial aid to support their pursuit of education.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:22 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: Kcompoc@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

## **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Compoc	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is a bill that punishes working class and poor men. I am a graduate student in the English department at UH Manoa and I already see how much my students struggle to pay for their educations, and how tempted they are to join the military even though it violates their values. They do not need the military exercising even more control over their decisions, and they do not need our government facilitating that control. The military already has too much control over our economy, our environment and our society as a whole. We need to build opportunities for young people to have access to careers that support human dignity and peace. Please say no to this bill.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:33 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: shelleymuneoka@gmail.com

Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM\*

# **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Shelley Muneoka	Individual	Oppose	No

#### Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:38 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: panther\_dave@yahoo.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

## **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Dave Kisor	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a Vietnam era Veteran, I find requiring our young people to be cannon fodder for endless wars to be unconscionable as well as unconstitutional. I'd hazard a guess that recruiters are not making quotas, so this trechery was implemented. This is not only wrong, it is unethical.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:44 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: jeffrey.acido@gmail.com

Subject: \*Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM\*

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## **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Acido	Individual	Oppose	No

#### Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:54 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: mickyhuihui@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

# **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Micky Huihui	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: A'OLE!!! NO NO NO!!!

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 9:01 AM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: burgharc@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

## **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Are you KIDDING ME? Have you even thought of the implications for this bill? How are you going to enforce it and really? Registering for military service for college? How about you all have to register as well? We saw how bad the draft was in Viet Nam days.. yes, I know it's already there from the Feds. BUT come on.. put money into the important things for our keiki like healthcare, education and feeding them.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:34 PM

To: FINTestimony

Cc: kyle.kajihiro@gmail.com

Subject: Submitted testimony for HB52 on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM

#### **HB52**

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for FIN on Feb 25, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 308



Submi	ted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle k	ajihiro	Hawaii Peace and Justice	Oppose	No

Comments: We oppose HB52 HD1. 1. This bill is based on sex discrimination and places undue hardship on transgender persons. It creates onerous barriers to residents accessing public education or services. 2. It forces conscientious objectors - persons who have a moral or religious objection war or killing— to enroll in a system they cannot support. 3. It is not necessary. There is no longer a draft. The selective service is an antiquated vestige that serves no purpose. 4. It is redundant. The federal laws already have penalties for failure to register in the selective service. State drivers license applicants are automatically registered. Please do not pass this bill. Thank you.

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