



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, February 03, 2015 at 2pm

by

Jan Javinar

Interim Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, University of Hawai'i

HB 554 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee:

HB 554 appropriates funds to the University of Hawai'i to pay student employees at new or expanded worksites on each of the campuses.

The University of Hawai'i System supports the intent of HB 554 especially as articulated in Section 1 of HB 554. On campus employment for college students benefits both the students and the campuses on which they are employed. For students, employment provides funds needed to cover rising college costs and affords opportunities to gain critical workforce and life skills as they matriculate and learn. For the college campuses, on campus student employees serve as a talented workforce, performing a myriad of critical functions that enables each campus to meet the needs of the campus community.

In addition, national research findings show that students who work on campus perform better academically than those who work off-campus. They also persist toward graduation at higher rates. The University of Hawai'i System recognizes that it is in its best interest to have our students work with us, and for us, in order to improve their persistence towards degree completion.

In summary, the University of Hawai'i System welcomes the financial support offered by HB 554 provided that this support does not adversely affect the University's priorities as articulated in its budget request. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 at 2:00PM Conference Rm. 309

Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee:

Students at the University of Hawaii, Mānoa can benefit greatly by being employed on the campus because they can earn money and adjust their work hours to fit their academic schedule. In addition these students will acquire job skills that will benefit them as they join our workforce or lead our economic growth. Finally, our students have many skills that can be used to benefit those that they serve. Whether it be tutoring in a subject that they have mastered or using their multi-lingual and multi-cultural skills to assist someone in need, our students are prepared to be of service.

In 2013-14, Mānoa Student Affairs programs used funding to hire students to help us recruit more Hawaii students to attend UH, to help students apply for financial aid, and to help students do well in their courses. This student employment bill helps students fund their education and acquire necessary employment skills.

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa supports the intent of the bill provided it does not adversely affect our UH priorities as set in our budget request.

Lori Ideta, Ed.D

Interim Vice Chancellor for Students, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 at 200 PM Conference Rm.309

To: Honorable Chair and members of the committee.

From: Tia Bryant

Sophomore, University of Hawaii at Manoa

1504 Liholiho St. Honolulu, HI 96822

Aloha,

My name is Tia Bryant and I am a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I am pursuing my degree in Japanese and Second language Studies. Being the first to attend college in my family I did not know what to expect. Not only did I have to worry about going to school, I had to worry about finding a job close to school. But thanks to WorkStudy I was able to get a job on campus. The employers understand the values of being a college student and are very flexible around school schedules, knowing how tough it is to have a healthy balance between school, home and work life. I am allowed to focus on my studies and make my hours in between my classes. This job provides me with some income that helps me purchase school supplies, transportation, and other daily life necessities. I have also met so many professionals that guide me through different aspects of my life. Having on-campus employment has given me many experiences that I know will benefit me after I graduate. I am very privileged to be a student employee of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and am forever grateful for this opportunity. I highly support this bill and I ask for your strong consideration.

Thank You

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 at 200PM Conference Rm.309

To: Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee

From: Leslie Cabingabang
94-1121 Waipahu St.
Waipahu, HI 96797

Aloha

My name is Leslie Cabingabang, an alumni and current employee of the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am writing in strong support of HB554 regarding student employment at the University.

When I was student at the University, there was no question that I needed to work to sustain being a student in Hawaii. Having the opportunity to work on campus afforded me time and convenience to be a successful student. Now, as a program coordinator in student affairs, I would like to encourage more students to take advantage of jobs on campus. With more funding for student employment, we can enrich students' professional development within the campus environment. Students benefit substantially by being able to work flexible hours to accommodate the demands of academics.

I thank you for your time and consideration in supporting this bill.

With gratitude,

Leslie D. Cabingabang

RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hearing date: Feb.3, 2015, Conference room 309, 2:00pm

Testimony in Support of House Bill No. 554
Committee on Higher Education

To Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ashley Cachero and I am a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am pursuing my degree in Social Work. I am also a single parent. Balancing being a mother, work and school is not easy, but having an on-campus job definitely makes all these things more manageable and less overwhelming.

I have worked for the University of Hawaii at Manoa Child Care Center and currently work for the Women's Center on campus. Both on campus jobs have provided me with the exact balance needed to attend to my school requirements, my daughter and work for the much needed income needed for all necessities. On campus jobs offer the opportunity to learn from their jobs as well as earn an income on top of it. As in my case, while working at the Women's Center, they have provided me with practical hands on experience and resources related to Social Work.

HB 554 in the long run could be considered a reason why more students are able to graduate as it will allow students to keep priorities straight, as on-campus jobs and employers identify the values of being a college student and are very flexible around school schedules, knowing how tough it is to have a healthy balance between school, home and work life.

Pursuing higher education is essential to be able to thrive in the real work but it is not easy to attend school when there are other areas that also need ones

time such as working to pay for necessities. In any other situation you would have to leave campus to go to work at jobs that are less likely to be understanding of the time needed for school. By supporting the passage of this bill, it will allow more student employment, which means more students being able to focus on studies and work when their own schedules allow it.

I highly support this bill and I ask for your strong consideration.

Ashley Cachero

acachero@hawaii.edu

**RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 554
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

HEARING DATE: Tuesday, Feb.3, 2015

2:00 pm Conference Room 309

**To: Honorable Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama and Members of the
Committee**

My name is Aovai Cole. I am a full time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in biological studies. I wrote this testimony to show my complete support of the HB 554. Even though I am only a freshman I have found that in my short time as a college student I faced more challenges than I have ever experienced anywhere else. Not only does the weight of student loans cloud my consciousness on a daily basis with their looming threats of bankruptcy, I also have the added stress of having to make money to support my studies while still being a full time student. The job I have with the OMSS office allows me to do just that. My job and my classrooms are all within walking distance of each other and I don't have to worry about being late to either one. I save gas, money and time. Being able to work on campus is a blessing in that sense but also in the sense that I have employers who know exactly what I am going through. They give me advice on where to get internships, what clubs I'd be interested in joining where to get cheap supplies that a struggling college student can afford and basically just how to survive university as a whole. You were probably all in my position at some point so please remember how it was for you back then, it hasn't gotten any easier.

Thank you for your time.

Aovai Cole

**P.O. Box 4521
Kaneohe, HI 96744**

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL NO. 554

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Hearing Date: Tuesday, Feb.3, 2015, Conference Room 309 -- 2:00PM

To: Honorable Chair , Vice Chair and Members of the Committee

My name is Michelle Duong, a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am currently pursuing my degree in Biology. Since starting my college career, I quickly discovered how difficult it was to financially support myself despite the help of government financial aid and scholarships. I also learned how hard it was to find an off-campus job that was flexible with my school schedule and that was in the nearby vicinity of my residence. Working on campus has provided, and still continues to provide, many positive advantages for a student employee who is going to school full-time. On-campus jobs and employers identify the values of being a college student and are very flexible around school schedules, knowing how tough it is to have a healthy balance between school, home and work life. I am allowed to focus on my studies while making hours in between my classes.

This job provides me with some income that helps me purchase school supplies, transportation, and other daily necessities. This job also allows me to financially support my mother, who is currently working two jobs, to pay off bills. I have also gained valuable skills, such as effective communication and maintaining professionalism, that guide me through different aspects of my life. Having on-campus employment has given me many experiences that I know will benefit me after I graduate and become a member of the working force in my career.

I am very privileged to be a student employee of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and am forever grateful for this opportunity. I highly support this bill and I humbly ask for your strong consideration as I know this will benefit not only myself, current and also future students.

Michelle Duong
1655 Kanunu St. Apt. 201
Honolulu, HI, 96814

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

House Committee on Higher Education

February 3, 2015 at 200 PM Conference Rm.309

Subject: **Testimony in strong support of HB554**

To: Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of committee

My name is Marie-Guillen C. Guillermo, a prospective graduate of Fall 2015 with a Bachelor's of Science in Family Resources at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Upon completing my undergraduate career, I plan to pursue a dual Master's of Education in Teaching and Foundations. In addition, I am a peer mentor of Sulong Aral at Leeward Community College. This will be my third semester as a student-worker.

As a full-time college student, I've realized from the start that maintaining an above average academic performance while working would be strenuous. During my first year in college, I worked off-campus in retail and food service. Although my grades were exceptional, they weren't good enough. I decided to quit and focus on school, but it was only a matter of time when I realized how my parents were already struggling to pay for my tuition.

Soon enough, I was given an opportunity to work for a program, Sulong Aral, at Leeward Community College. Sulong Aral is a Tagalog statement that translates to "Moving Forward Education." It is a federal funded program from the U.S. Department of Education that is designed to increase post secondary access for Filipino high school students to raise persistence in completion rates of Filipino student at Leeward CC and to increase transfer rate of Filipino CC students into bachelor programs at UH Manoa.

As a student-worker, being a student always comes first, as it should be. My work schedule is structured around my school schedule and my academic performance has improved, as I am able to focus more on my classes. As an aspiring teacher, working in a student-teacher and/or mentor-mentoree environment has benefited me in the development of my communication, organizing, networking and other professional skills. It's also given me a chance to discover and utilize resources of support that is found through out the UH system. I have also crossed paths with highly decorated professors and other professionals who've become inspirational and motivational figures in my life. Being a student-worker has allowed me to further explore the potential I have as a student, a community member, and a prospective professional.

There are not enough words to express my strong support for this bill. With your support, students like me are able to support their families, financial needs and live their dream.

Thank you kindly for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marie-Guillen C. Guillermo
mariegui@hawaii.edu

Sulong Aral, Leeward Community College 94-045 Ala Ike Street, DA-204
Pearl City, HI 96782

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 554
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

HEARING DATE: February 3, 2015 at 2:00 PM Conference Rm. 309

To: Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee

My name is Danny Hong, a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Biological Engineering. During my years of college the biggest obstacle I had to face in pursuing my career was financially supporting my studies. In order to combat this struggle I had to find a good paying job where my books and tuition can be paid off. After finding one outside of campus, I realized how difficult it was to time manage it with my studies. Students like myself did not have a car, so time was wasted traveling far distances rather than using it to study. In addition to that, I had to work strict and unreasonable hours for my off campus job, thus making studying more difficult. However, all of this changed after finding an on-campus job. With a job on campus, traveling time was drastically reduced to give me more study time. Most importantly, lenient and flexible hours were provided making room for studying. Though both jobs paid well, the on campus job managers were more understandable towards my studies. Above all, the on campus job has pressured me in improving myself since the work labor required me to take initiative of my actions. On the other hand, an outside job barely improved my character because straight forward routine was only required. All in all, I am deeply privileged to have an on campus job because it has allowed me to buy necessary tools to aid in my studies. I highly support this bill because I know for a fact that this will help not only me but many of the present and future students.

Danny Hong
757 Kinalau Place APT# 905
Honolulu, HI, 96813

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 at 200 PM Conference Rm.309

To: Honorable Chair and members of the committee.

Aloha,

My name is Justice Kaseli and I am a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I am currently pursuing a Bachelor's of science degree in Electrical Engineering. When I made the transition from high school to college, I immediately discovered the expenses of college, and the struggles that came along with them. I knew that in order to afford these expenses I would have to find a job. I spent a while in search of an off-campus job, but unfortunately I could not find one that agreed with my class schedule. Working on campus has many positive advantages for being a student employee. The employer's On-campus are much more lenient and understanding, because they understand that education will take precedence over work. On-campus jobs and employers are very flexible around school schedules, they understand the importance of developing you as a person and not just an employee. I am always granted sufficient time between working and classes to study and work on assignments. As a commuter from the west side of the island, I value time greatly. With a minimum of three hours inside of a bus or at a bus stop, I appreciate when my employers allow me an extra hour to work on school assignments. I have experienced and learned many things as an On-campus employee that will definitely benefit me in my career and future. I am very privileged to be a student employee of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and I appreciate the time you have given me to speak on my experiences. I support this bill in its entirety, and I hope you may take this into consideration. Mahalo for your time.

Sincerely,

Justice Kaseli

94-1103 Nalii Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

jkkaseli@hawaii.edu

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

H.B. 554

Honorable Chair Choy and Vice Chair Ichiyama and Committee Members, Aloha!

Please accept this written testimony in *strong support* of H.B. 554 relating to the Student Employment Program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

My name is Devan Lau and I am a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am pursuing my degree in Civil Engineer. Since I started my college career, I quickly learned that it was really hard to find an off-campus job that was flexible with my school schedule. Working on campus has many positive advantages for being a student employee. On-campus jobs and employers identify the values of being a college student and are very flexible around school schedules, knowing how tough it is to have a healthy balance between school, home and work life. I am allowed to focus on my studies and make my hours in between my classes. This job provides me with some income that helps me purchase school supplies, transportation, and other daily life necessities. I have also met so many professionals that guide me through different aspects of my life. Having on-campus employment has given me many experiences that I know will benefit me after I graduate. I am very privileged to be a student employee of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and am forever grateful for this opportunity. I highly support this bill and I ask for your strong consideration.

Thank you for allowing me to submit this testimony.



Signature

Devan Lau

Print Name

2760 Rooke Ave.

Address

Honolulu, HI 96817

City, State and Zip Code

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF House Bill 554

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
February 3, 2015, Conference Room 309, 2PM

To: Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee

Talofa lava! My name is Sofe S. Lefiti, a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Public Health. I would like to share with you all the wonderful experiences I have had from my campus job. I learned so much while working at the Office of Multicultural Students Services (or OMSS). I am able to help other Pacific Island students in their academics by ensuring their success and also help them find useful resources to continue their education. Although I only started working last semester (Fall 2014) and I am still new to this working experience, I have grasped a lot of knowledge by working with faculty and staff members. I have met so many of them and also other students who work for OMSS; they have become family to me as well. Communication, interaction, and cooperation are all key to my work at OMSS. I am learning good leadership skills from my fellow student workers. Having a campus job makes it manageable for me to focus on my studies while working and earning money. I am glad to say that I have chosen a perfect workplace on campus. The money I earn helps with my educational expenses such as my tuition every semester, books, supplies, gas money, and for food. I live off-campus at a low-income housing with a few family relatives whom are unemployed (and still seeking jobs) and an elderly who is sick and needs better health care. I am very grateful and appreciate that my student employment job on campus has helped me greatly in continuing my education to accomplish my goals while living here on Oahu.

Fa'afetai Tele Lava,

Sofe S. Lefiti
1449 Ahonui St APT 10F
Honolulu, HI 96819

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 at 200 PM Conference Rm.309

To: Honorable Chair and members of the committee

My name is Cheyona Lopez and I am the first in my family to attend college. I'm currently a full time student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, majoring in Social Work. As a student and student worker on-campus, I strongly support HB 554.

Since I started my college career in August 2011, I quickly learned that it was really hard to find an off-campus job that was flexible with my school schedule. Working on campus has many positive benefits for being a student employee. For the past 4 years I have been working at the Office of Multicultural Student Services at UH. Like many on-campus jobs and the employers, they identify the values of being a college student and are very flexible around school schedules knowing how tough it is to have a healthy balance between school, home, and work life. I am allowed to focus on my studies and make my hours in between classes. Another benefit of having an on-campus job is it provides me with some income that helps purchase school supplies, transportation, and other daily life necessities (paying bills, help support my family, etc.). Another benefit of having an on-campus job is having the opportunity to meet so many professionals that guide me through aspects of my life. Lastly, through an on-campus job, it has given me the opportunity to gain new experiences, knowledge, and skills that I know will benefit me after I graduate. For example, some of the skills I have gain or improved on are Leadership, communication, attentiveness, and organizing skills. Some of my job titles at the office include: student ambassador, outreach speaker, and student assistant. Within in job titles, some of the duties I perform are campus tours of UH Manoa to Elementary, Middle, High school students around the island and off island, College Admissions presentations, helping out with big events(Manoa Experience), coordinator of BIN-I program, etc. Through these duties, I improved on my social skills, communicating with students, staff, my boss, etc., taking charge, etc. I will able to apply it in my daily life and for future purposes as a social worker.

I am very privileged to be a student employee of UH Manoa and I'm forever grateful for this opportunity. Thank you for hearing this bill. Working students who try to manage family, academics, and work responsibilities should be supported, and not deprived of the few things that are helping them to survive. Thank you again, and I ask for your strong consideration.

Cheyona Lopez
1441 Kaumuali'i St E337, Honolulu, Hi 96817
Email: Cheyona@hawaii.edu

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 554
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Hearing Date:

Tuesday, Feb.3, 2015 Conference Room 309, 2:00pm

To: Honorable Chair Choy , Vice Chair Ichiyama and Members of the Committee

My name is Makerita Luani, a full-time student at the University of Hawaii Manoa majoring in Sociology and a student employee at the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS). Working on campus has made my education career more convenient and stress-free and am very thankful for the opportunity. I was able to work my time around my class schedules and my work and could guarantee that this opportunity is benefiting other students too. In addition, as a student employee there were also other grants offered for which helps with school tuition, boarding, and school supplies and I was only lucky to qualify because I was a student employee. These on-campus job opportunities are highly encourage to all the UH-Manoa students, however I extremely request for your support in maintaining these great resources in succeeding student's education career. I am thankful for this opportunity, I support this bill and highly ask for your strong consideration.

Makerita Luani
1675 D Ahiahi Pl
mluani26@hawaii.edu

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 554
COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

February 3, 2015 Conference Room 309, 2:00pm

To: Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee

My name is Juanito Moises, Jr., a first-year and full time-student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Civil Engineering and a student assistant at the UH Manoa GEAR UP Office. Although I have just started working during the beginning of 2015, working on-campus has made me learn an important life skill that I believe will be very useful as I continue to grow up into adulthood. I was able to learn what it means to manage my time wisely with work, classes and other responsibilities. I am so thankful for the opportunity to work on-campus because I was able to work my time around my class schedules. Most importantly, I was able to learn how to work formally with the staff and other adults around me, which is really beneficial for all the UH Manoa students to learn while they are still in college that they will be able to carry on to their professional career; communication, respect, and teamwork are essential in the professional world. I would highly encourage all the UH Manoa students these on-campus job opportunities, however I highly request for you to support in maintaining these beneficial resources in succeeding student's education and professional career. I am grateful for this opportunity; I support this bill and highly ask for your consideration.

Juanito Moises, Jr.
94-386 Oililua Pl
Waipahu, HI 96797
juanitom@hawaii.edu

Testimony in Support of HB 554
Hearing date: Feb.3, 2015 200PM Conference Room 309

Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015
Hawai'i State Capitol ☒ Conference Room 309

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education,

It is with great respect that I submit my testimony in support of HB 554. My name is Vanessa Pulido, a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa majoring in Natural Resources and Environmental Management. During my time at Manoa, I have developed, and continue to develop, skills that are crucial in ensuring that I become a successful professional. Although my classes taught me conceptual concepts needed in the field, the professionalism, collaboration, and many other skills that I developed are a result of being a part-time on-campus student employee.

I have been fortunate to be given the opportunity to wear multiple hats on campus. Besides being a student, I am a student coordinator for a program directed towards first year students attending UH Manoa, a program assistant for a program geared towards college awareness for middle and high school students, and an Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness Research and Training (AANCART) research assistant. Being able to work on-campus has allowed me to have a sense of flexibility I know I am not able to find anywhere else. My employers give me the ability to set my own schedule and are always willing to work around any exams or projects that may come up for any of my classes.

My employers have played a key role in allowing me to grow, not only as a student, but also as a future professional. In many cases, I have been pushed to step out of my comfort zone in order to ensure that my tasks are completed in an efficient manner. I am also able to rely on the money I earn to pay for books, helping my family, and many other essential things. These experiences, and many more, are the result of my on-campus jobs and there are simply no words that can express the importance of on-campus employment.

I would like to thank you for your consideration of HB 554. Your decision to provide funding that would support student employment through on-campus jobs is one that will enhance the experiences of hundreds of students, both present and future. Thank you for your time and continued dedication.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Pulido
2600 Campus Road, QLC 309
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

HB 554 RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII—STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 at 200 PM Conference Rm.309

To: Honorable Chair and members of the committee.

Aloha,

My name is Jefferson Remo and I am a student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I am currently in my second year and pursuing my degree in Molecular Cell Biology. Being able to attain and hold an on-campus job is something that I think I take for granted. In the past year and half that I have worked for OMSS I have gained so much more than whatever figure my paystub says. I have become a leader within my peers. I would have not been able to grow as student and a person without this experience. It taught me the importance of student affairs and the crucial role it plays in allowing the young scholars to reach amazing heights in terms of their education, extracurricular, and within themselves. That is what having an on-campus job can provide. It can let young ambitious students set roots into an amazing institution so that when it is our time to blossom and reveal ourselves to the world, we will be ready to catalyze a change.

Jefferson Artajo Remo
91-1032 Pohahawai Pl
jremo@hawaii.edu

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGER EDUCATION

Hearing date: Tuesday, Feb.3, 2015 2:00pm Conference room 309

To: Honorable Chair , Vice Chair and members of the committee.

Aloha,

My name is Derek Sasaki and I am a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa. I am pursuing my degree in Biological Engineering, Since I started my college career , I quickly learned that it was really hard to find an off-campus job that was flexible with my school schedule. Working on campus has many positive advantages for being a student employee. On-campus jobs and employers identify the values of being a college student and are very flexible around school schedules, knowing how tough it is to have a healthy balance between school, home and work life. I am allowed to focus on my studies and make my hours in between my classes.

This job provides me with some income that helps me purchase school supplies, transportation, and other daily life necessities. I have also met so many professionals that guide me through different aspects of my life. Through a campus job I have gained a deeper level of connection to UH Mānoa. UH has become a second home for me with the welcoming atmosphere for both my work and school life being combined in one place. Having on-campus employment has given me many experiences that I know will benefit me after I graduate. I am very privileged to be a student employee of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and am forever grateful for this opportunity.

I highly support this bill and I ask for your strong consideration.

Derek Sasaki
1115 Ala Lilikoi Place

RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
Hearing date: Feb.3, 2015, Conference room 309, 2:00pm

Testimony in Support of House Bill No. 554
Committee on Higher Education

To Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Diane Yang, and I am a full-time student at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa, majoring in Travel Industry Management and minoring in Chinese and Business Administration. When starting college, I discovered that it was difficult to maintain my off-campus job due to conflictions with timing and flexibility. Having an on-campus job has been very important and beneficial to my college career. Being able to work on-campus has proven to be extremely convenient as the hours I work are flexible and there is little time wasted in terms of commuting from one place to another. With less time wasted, I am able to devote more of my time to my studies. Another advantage of an on-campus job is the support it provides in my educational expenses, such as with the costs of tuition, books, and transportation. This greatly helps to lessen the burden of the rising costs of college on my family and I. Working as a student coordinator for the Office of Multicultural Student Services has not only immensely improved my communication skills, but also my ability to network with others, making it a great privilege for me.

Having an on-campus job is a wonderful opportunity and provides countless benefits and advantages for students. I am greatly in support for this bill, and thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane Yang
768 Lawelawe St.
Honolulu, HI 96821

ichiyama2-Brandon

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:46 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: makahababy@aol.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB554 on Feb 3, 2015 14:00PM

LATE

HB554

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 3, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sara Perry	UH Student Caucus	Support	No

Comments: The UH Student Caucus supports this Bill. We find that student employment opportunities will only benefit our student population with real-world experiences. Often, campus jobs are much more flexible for students while they attend classes, and offer the perk of geographic location so a student doesn't have to leave the campus to work between their classes. Mahalo for your consideration of this testimony, Sara E. Perry UH Student Caucus, Chair

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 4:19 PM
To: HEDtestimony
Cc: jeffrey.acido@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB554 on Feb 3, 2015 14:00PM

LATE

HB554

Submitted on: 2/3/2015

Testimony for HED on Feb 3, 2015 14:00PM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Acido	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: HB554 Student Employment Aloha Chair Sen. Taniguchi, Sen. Inouye, and committee on Higher Education Committee: Thank you for giving us a moment to comment and testify on this important issue. I grew up in Kalihi, attend all the public schools in Kalihi, and went to Honolulu Community College and finished my doctorates at UH Manoa. I want to say that during my time at the University of Hawaii I was employed as a student in different offices, ranging from the Leeward Community college as college recruiter, as a cancer awareness advocate at Manoa, as a graduate student teaching classes in the Ilokano language program. I am thankful for those opportunities, not only because of the obvious financial rewards but more so because of the many knowledge and wisdom that I learned. You see, jobs for students at the university mean so much more than just money—even though that is what we are advocating for—it means that we can stay on campus, avoid commuting, and dedicate more time to our studies; it means that we get to meet amazing people who do great work that someday we may get into in education, in politics, in science. Above all, it means that we get to work in an environment that makes use of our talents while promoting the value of education. Thank you so much for time, Jeffrey Tangonan Acido, PhD

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, 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.

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TO: Committee on Higher Education
Representative Issac Choy Chair
Representative Linda Ichiyama Vice-Chair

LATE

FROM: Teresa Bill tbill808@gmail.com

RE: Testimony **Supporting HB 554**,
Relating to University of Hawai'i Student Employment
Tues. Feb 3, 2015
2:00 p.m. Conference Room 309

I am Teresa Bill, testifying in support of HB 554 which provides funds to all the University of Hawai'i Campuses for on-campus student employment.

As the coordinator of a program (UH Bridge to Hope) which provides welfare participating students academic support in addition to on-campus student employment, I see firsthand the benefit that students gain from on-campus employment as well as the need for additional student employment funding for the general student population.


On campus student employment enhances students' engagement with academic offices, and helps students to keep academics as a priority. Campus employers take into account students' school schedules and will never ask students to choose between their part-time job and attending class or finishing a final assignment; as often happens with private sector employers.

When students work on campus their work environment supports college success, their peers and mentors are also college-focused and prioritize academic success. Students working on campus also get to know campus much more, including the resources available to them – rather than rushing to & from the parking lot to get to their job after classes.

Community colleges in particular lack funds for on-campus employment. This bill would address that need. Bridge to Hope student employees are quite popular not only because they're good student employees, but because Bridge to Hope funds their wages. Unfortunately, our program's funding and eligibility requirements are quite limited, so the general student population doesn't not have this same on-campus employment opportunity.

It is my experience, running a program offering on-campus employment to approximately 100 students across the 10 UH campuses, that student gain the most from on-campus employment. They gain experience, skills, confidence and access to mentors. Many more UH students would benefit greatly from the passage of HB 1953, please fund this bill.

Thank You for the opportunity to share my testimony.



Teresa Bill

LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 554

Franalyn Galiza
MEd student, Educational Foundations
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
February 3, 2015
2:00 PM
State Capitol Room 309

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Committee on Higher Education,

My name is Franalyn Galiza. I was born in Kalihi, housed in Waipahu and raised in Wai'anae. I was also born to working class immigrant Filipino parents. Coming from underserved communities and the struggle of my parents working four jobs altogether would soon be fixed if I pursued higher education. I attended Leeward CC and was accepted into a prestigious--difficult to get into--nursing program in the Pacific, University of Hawaii at Manoa. Which in turn meant that nursing would be vehicle that would free my parents from overworking and provide a better future for myself.

However, pursuing higher education would not have been possible if I had not received various scholarships, one being the Board of Regents, Presidential Scholarship, but also the hard earnings that my parents struggled to provide for me. I am currently an MEd student in Educational Foundations at the University, but I find myself struggling more to fund my education because scholarships are minimal, but more importantly, my parents are now funding my younger sibling through college.

To combat the monetary issues, is my full support of HB 554 to assist creating more job opportunities to emerging youth leaders, like myself and my peers, to be able to assist their families and defray the cost of their schooling.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for considering this passage.

Sincerely,

Franalyn Galiza

LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 554 – FEB.3, 2015 200PM ROOM 309

From: Debieh A.R. Miguel (Debieh@hawaii.edu)
Sulong Aral, Leeward Community College (Rm: DA-204)
94-045 Ala Ike Street
Pearl City, HI 96782

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

To: Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and members of the committee

My name is Debieh Amberlyn R. Miguel, I am currently a student at the University of Hawai'i at West Oahu (UHWO). I'm expecting to be graduating in the spring of 2016 with my Bachelor's in Social Science concentrated on Psychology. Once I obtain my Bachelor's, I will be moving forward into my Master's degree on Psychology at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa (UHM). I'm planning on becoming a High School Counselor or Teacher of Psychology.

I am the second generation of my family that is born and raised in Hawaii. My parents are originally from the Philippines. When they came to Hawaii, they had realized it wasn't easy. They worked for minimum wage to provide for our family and their family back home. During my upbringing I never fully understood why it was so important for my parents to constantly work and have multiple jobs. They made daily sacrifices so I can have everything I need, including education. I realized that as I got further into my education, the costs were increasing. I knew that I needed to make my own sacrifices.

In April 2014, a program called "Sulong Aral" hired me. It is a federally funded program that supports students of Filipino ancestry to move forward in their education, which provides help to transfer to UHM. Our main goal is to increase the percentages of Filipino Leeward Community College students to transfer to the UHM to pursue their Bachelor's degree.

My experiences with the program were more than I imagined. I expected employment and I gotten much more. I became close and well connected to educators of the UH system, community members, faculty members, other student workers, and UHM and LCC students. I've also gained multiple skill sets such as communication, networking, time-management, organizing educational and cultural events and professionalism, which all contribute towards my academic journey and job career.

During my time with Sulong Aral, I was able to attend school and help my parents provide for our family. It was very convenient to be employed at the same campus your attending school. Based on my experiences I strongly support this bill. It will give other students the opportunity to develop as a person by building and learning new connections within the UH system, also giving the students the chance to support himself/herself financially, and being able to balance education and work.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

LATE

**Strong Support for HB 554
Committee on Higher Education
February 3, 2015 200PM ROOM 309
Hawaii State Capitol**

To: Honorable Chair, Vice Chair and the members of the committee

From: James B. Ruiz
Sulong Aral, Leeward Community College
94-045 Ala Ike Street, DA-204
Pearl City, HI 96782

Subject: Testimony in Strong Support of HB554

My name is James Ruiz, a student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and former student of Leeward Community College. I am originally from Kauai, and attended Kauai Community College for one year. After that year, I transferred to Leeward Community College and attended there for three semesters. This January, I transferred to the University of Hawaii at Manoa for the 2015 Spring semester, and I am finishing my prerequisites for the Dental Hygiene program at Manoa. After completing this semester, I am hoping to be accepted into the Dental Hygiene program this Fall 2015. Before transferring to UH Manoa, I was a student worker at Leeward Community College as a peer mentor for the Sulong Aral Program. Being a student worker helped me with the transition from Kauai CC to Leeward CC and gave me great experiences that benefitted me as a student.

The transition from Kauai CC to Leeward CC was really hard for me. I left all my close friends on Kauai, and came here to Oahu friendless. My first semester at Leeward was sad for me. I would just go to school, attend my classes, and then go back home. I felt really depressed that I had no one to hangout with after school and on my free time. My second semester is when things got better for me. In my Asian Studies class, the program manager of the Sulong Aral Program saw potential in me and asked me if I was interested working as a peer mentor for the program. After being asked, I said yes.

After working for the program, I learned a lot of information that I could use to help me transfer from Leeward CC to UH Manoa. I also met a lot of people that were in the program and the people that worked for it. After being alone for that one semester on Oahu, I finally met people that I can hangout with. My coworkers were more than just colleagues, they were also my friends and support group. Without them, I would've struggle my last two semesters at Leeward CC. Everyone in the program helps and supports each other academically and personally. If I weren't offered to work for the program, I probably wouldn't be where I am today.

Students are always trying to find a way to make a little pocket money while being a full time student in school. But it is hard working part time off campus and being a full time student. I use to work part time on Kauai, and I also was a full time student taking 14 credits. It was a struggle to balance school and work. Eventually, I started to fall behind in my studies. But I couldn't quit

my job because I needed the extra money. With student jobs, it will make life easier for a full time student that wants to work part time.

Student jobs are perfect for full time students because first of all, the job will be campus. Students don't need to worry about driving to work before or after school. Secondly, we are able to work around our school schedule and find times that will be best for us. Third, we can learn a lot from the job that we choose to work for and imply that to our lives. As I worked for the Sulong Aral Program, I improved in my communication skills, time management, studying techniques, and even my social skills. I also learned a lot about transferring. This information was very helpful to me because that made my transition from Leeward CC to UH Manoa go successfully. If I didn't know the things I needed in order to transfer, I wouldn't be at UH this semester. Lastly, our employment gives us the opportunity to connect and network with other professionals and establish great relationships that will help you later in life.

With your help and support, current student workers will have the opportunity to continue their education as a full time student and part time student worker to help them succeed in life without having to worry about their financial needs.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
James B. Ruiz
jrui6@hawaii.edu