



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Higher Education
January 30, 2018 at 1:15 p.m.

by
Kalbert K. Young
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i

SB 2833 – RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII REVENUE BONDS

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the committee:

The University of the Hawai'i is in support of SB 2833, Relating to University of Hawaii Revenue Bonds.

The purpose of this bill is to authorize the University of Hawai'i (University) to issue \$100,000,000 in revenue bonds for the purpose of financing the construction and maintenance of qualifying capital improvement projects. An increase in the University's authority to issue revenue bonds is necessary to enable the University to continue addressing its capital facility needs, including new project construction and the major repair and maintenance backlog.

State financing support through General Obligation (GO) Bond appropriations is the primary method of funding infrastructure for the only public university of Hawai'i. However, the availability of revenue bond authority would supplement GO bonds and could be valuable as a strategic revenue source. This authority would only be used for financing projects that are revenue-generating or financially appropriate for the University.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SB-2833

Submitted on: 1/28/2018 6:43:15 PM

Testimony for HRE on 1/30/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

THE HAWAII STATE SENATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

1:15 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 224

RE: **Testimony in Support** of SB 2833, RELATING TO UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII REVENUE BONDS

To the Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair; the Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No. 2833, relating to \$100,000,000 in revenue bonds for financing construction and maintenance of qualifying capital improvement projects at the University of Hawaii. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 2833 and support its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2833, is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it authorizes the University of Hawaii to issue \$100,000,000 in revenue bonds for financing the construction and maintenance of qualifying capital improvement projects. The Platform of the DPH provides that "[e]ducation facilities must be maintained, renovated and built to 21st-century innovations so that our students learn in well-designed, safe environments." (Platform of DPH, P. 6, Lines 300-302 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No. 2833 authorizes the University of Hawaii to issue revenue bonds for financing the construction and maintenance of capital improvement projects at the University of Hawaii, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889

SB-2833

Submitted on: 1/29/2018 10:36:37 AM

Testimony for HRE on 1/30/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randall Francisco	County of Kauai	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of this legislation as it is essential for the University of Hawaii as a System to be able to continue to attract students and scholars in a highly competitive higher education environment. Attracting and keeping students can only help decrease our brain drain investment as well as increase new scholars and academia to keep the university's research I status. Mahalo for your consideration. Randy Francisco, UH Hilo and UH Manoa.