

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ÕNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Higher Education & Technology February 2, 2024 at 2:05 p.m. By Jan Gouveia Vice President for Administration University of Hawai'i System

HB 2501 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Chair Perruso, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2501 – Relating to the University of Hawai'i Reporting Requirements. HB 2501 repeals the reporting requirement of creating a report that is no longer necessary, which would allow University of Hawai'i (UH) staff and resources to be put towards other priorities.

For reporting pursuant to Section §302A-431, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), UH supports repealing Section §302A-431(b), HRS, that will remove the reporting requirements regarding the cost impacts of providing workers' compensation coverage for UH students. During the fiscal biennium 2014-2016, only one (1) workers' comp claim was made at a cost of \$1,046. Since then, no cost claims have been made. However, UH is still required to submit a report each biennium. The expenditure of UH staff time and resources to gather and submit a report each biennium does not benefit the State. This bill will promote efficiency and good governance within UH.

Up until 2022, the Department of Education (DOE) was included in this statute that required that they report the cost impacts of providing workers' compensation coverage for its students. Act 224, SLH 2022, eliminated that reporting requirement for the DOE. The current measure seeks to also eliminate the reporting requirement for UH.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2501.