

SR-126

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Testimony for HRE on 3/30/2023 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Orlans	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am born and raised on O'ahu and commuted during my high school years from the west side to attend McKinley High School. Thanks to a geographic exception and no kid left behind, my parents sent me to this diverse school in town in hopes of being the first in my family to attend a university. We sacrificed many hours of our lives commuting in carpool lanes, the zipper lane and on TheBus express #93. When I got accepted to UH Mānoa's TIM school I was estatic to get to move to town by dorming and paying for it with student loans. I did not need to commute any longer, except on the many rainy days when the Rainbow Shuttle came to my rescue. Dorming at Mānoa allowed me the affordable chance to finally live in town close to my friends that I went to Mckinley with and close to Waikīkī where my TIM degree required me to intern. All while allowing me to live, work and catch TheBus all within close proximity and not having to sacrifice hours of my life in a vehicle. My time at McKinley shaped me to make firends with a diverse group of people and helped overall with my adjustment to living with people from across the US and studying with people from countries like Germany and Venezuela, people that I still communicate with and keep touch with. As an alumni that is currently working in this industry, I see the need for the TIM school to remain apart of the Shidler College of Business for them to further support and elevate to the status that is expected of a destiantion with tourism as the number one economy. For the many professionals to support our students and future workforce it also makes the most sense to keep the school within close proximity of majority of the industry is for O'ahu. Our industry professionals, especially our TIM alumni, often give back our time during our work days to speak with students, teach classes or network at events after work, and overall provide the mentorship and guidance needed to inspire students to live and work in our destination after they gradutate. The state benefits by keeping the TIM school at Mānoa where our TIM students get the most value out of their educational dollar, sometimes even if it means adding on the dorms as a living arrangement. I am in opposition to this SR. Thank you for your consideraiton of my testimony.