



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education and Technology
Friday, February 3, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Erika Lacro

Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1407 – RELATING TO WATER TESTING

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

The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges are in support of HB 1407, which establishes a water quality testing laboratory at the University of Hawai'i Maui College (UHMC).

The UHMC has been performing this water quality testing through funding from a federal grant, which is coming to end. This measure would ensure the continuation of water quality testing capabilities at UHMC, along with the continued training of our students in the program.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 1407, on the condition that any funds appropriated in support of this program does not supplant any portion of the University's budget request.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 1407.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1407, RELATING TO WATER TESTING.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

DATE: Friday, February 3, 2023 **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Candace J. Park, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Perruso and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to fund and staff a water testing laboratory at the University of Hawai'i Maui college. The bill dictates the educational qualifications for the positions to staff the water testing laboratory.

Section 6 of article X of the Hawai'i State Constitution gives the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university." Section 6 further provides: This section shall not limit the power of the legislature to enact laws of statewide concern. The Legislature shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern." If the Committee decides to pass this bill, we recommend an amendment that adds a statement identifying this bill as a law of statewide concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.