

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

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Rep. Darius K. Kila	Rep. Christopher L. Muraoka
Rep. Trish La Chica	Rep. Kanani Souza
Rep. Ikaika Olds	

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 7, 2025
TIME: 2:00 p.m.
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Bachman Hall
Board of Regents Conference Room 106
2444 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

Click [here](#) for the live stream of this meeting via YouTube.

A G E N D A

[HB 542](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII PROMISE PROGRAM. HED, FIN
Expands the Hawaii promise program to provide scholarships for the unmet needs of qualified students at any four-year university of Hawaii campus who meet certain criteria. Appropriates funds.

[HB 840](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ATHLETICS. HED, FIN
Appropriates moneys to athletics departments of the University of Hawaii.

[HB 842](#)
[Status](#)

RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII. HED, FIN
Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii at Manoa to establish three additional permanent mental health practitioner positions within the Division of Student Success' Counseling and Student Development Center.



HB 1170 Status	RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESIDENT TUITION FEE. Requires the University of Hawaii to grant the resident tuition fee for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus to individuals who have graduated from a Hawaii high school and are enrolling in an undergraduate degree program, under certain conditions.	HED, FIN
HB 1171 Status	RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RELIEF FUNDING. Amends the University of Hawaii Tuition and Fees Special Fund by allowing the Board of Regents to dedicate funding for student aid in direct response to an emergency or disaster, as declared by the governor.	HED, FIN
HB 1345 Status	RELATING TO TEACHER EDUCATION. Requires the Board of Regents to grant a waiver on all tuition and mandatory fees to a resident student enrolled in the College of Education at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for the semester or term that the student enrolls in a State-Approved Teacher Education Program.	HED, FIN
HB 442 Status	RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII. Appropriates funds to the UH system for various nursing programs.	HED, FIN
HB 843 Status	RELATING TO THE COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESILIENCE. Appropriates funds for critical repairs, maintenance, demolition, design, and construction for facilities of the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Establishes and appropriates funds for positions within the University of Hawaii for the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resilience.	HED, FIN
HB 643, HD1 (HSCR36) Status	RELATING TO THE COCONUT RHINOCEROS BEETLE PROGRAM. Establishes short-term management initiatives for the coconut rhinoceros beetle response program. Appropriates funds for activities and positions related to coconut rhinoceros beetle infestation control. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	AGR, HED, FIN
HB 441, HD1 (HSCR27) Status	RELATING TO CIGARETTE TAXES. Beginning 7/1/2025, increases the cigarette tax and amends the cigarette tax disposition of revenues by allocating the increase in the cigarette tax amount to the Hawaii Cancer Research Special Fund. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	HLT, HED, FIN
HB 1085, HD1 (HSCR67) Status	RELATING TO TAXATION. Increases the tax rates for cigarettes and little cigars beginning 1/1/2026, amends the disposition of tax revenues to certain non-general funds starting from fiscal year 2026-2027, with the excess carrying over to the general fund, and expands the disposition of tax revenues to the non-general funds to include all tobacco product taxes. Repeals obsolete historical tax rates. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	HLT, HED, FIN



DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, neither the House nor the University of Hawai'i will be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at (808) 586-8476. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-8476.

Rep. Andrew Takuya Garrett
Chair

