



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 Finance
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By

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HB 2158 HD1 – RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) would like to provide comments on HB 2158 HD1 - Relating to the University of Hawaii, which proposes the establishment of a program-level transparency dashboard and annual reporting requirements.

UH is committed to data-informed decision-making and agrees with the Legislature's goal of providing students, families, and policymakers with clear and actionable information on academic outcomes. The UH already maintains a robust data infrastructure, and this measure aligns with our ongoing efforts to modernize how we report and utilize institutional data.

UH recognizes that a centralized, searchable dashboard, as described in Subsection (c), will enhance the student experience by enabling easier comparisons across campuses and fields of study. Currently, much of the data described in this measure can be found via the Institutional Research, Analysis and Planning Office (IRAPO) website, which was recently updated in Fall of 2025. This website includes access to UH data regarding retention and graduation and also the Post-Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO) dashboard, which provides high-quality data on median earnings and employment status. Additionally, UH currently utilizes the Annual Report of Program Data (ARPD) for our community college campuses. We have recently launched initiatives to apply similar cost-tracking methodologies to our four-year campuses, including UH Mānoa, to better understand instructional costs per credit hour.

Where UH does not currently collect data described in this bill, additional resources may be needed to develop enhanced data collection capabilities, including staffing. While there is still work to do, UH is ready to ensure the best possible presentation of data for the public.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.