



# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

## **Legislative Testimony**

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.  
by  
Jan Gouveia  
Vice President for Administration  
University of Hawai'i

### **HB 1268 HD1 – RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee:

I am respectfully submitting written testimony on behalf of the University of Hawai'i in support of House Bill 1268 HD1 – Relating to Workers' Compensation – which proposes that vocational rehabilitation benefits will not be available to employees who retire from their employer with whom they sustained their work injury and requires all eligible injured public employees to participate in the employer's return to work program as a prerequisite to vocational rehabilitation benefits.

The University of Hawai'i supports this bill as it will reduce vocational rehabilitation benefit costs related to retired employees. It will also reduce costs by requiring injured employees to seek alternative positions with the employer prior to being eligible for vocational rehabilitation benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.