Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Education Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs

> February 2, 2007 by Dr. Rose Tseng, Chancellor University of Hawai`i at Hilo

SB 936 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I

Chair Sakamoto, Chair Kokubun, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committees:

The purpose of SB 936 is to appropriate funding for the Hawaiian Language College at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. I strongly concur with the efforts of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikolani College. Their commitment toward revitalizing the Hawaiian Language has truly been exemplary. In fact, their model and efforts at revitalizing Hawaiian Language has received national and international acclaim. Accordingly, the University fully supports the mission and efforts of the Hawaiian Language College. However, I need to note that the reference to appropriations in this Bill was not considered in the request approved by the University of Hawai`i Board of Regents. In effect, the University supports the concept and the allocation of resources to the University as long as the funds are in addition to the BOR budget request and is not in conflict with the priorities set by the BOR.

Aloha, and thank you for providing me with this opportunity to submit testimony on this Bill.