



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Lower and Higher Education  
Friday, February 7, 2020 at 2:20 p.m.

By  
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Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology  
And  
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Provost  
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HB 2416 – RELATING TO KANEOHE BAY

Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Quinlan, and members of the committee:

The Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB) offers the following comments on HB 2416 which creates a full-time internship coordinator position and He'eia estuarine research reserve cultural resource specialist positions with HIMB .

As a research institute heavily involved in helping the University of Hawai'i to achieve its strategic goal of being a 'Hawaiian place of learning,' HIMB wishes to express its support of efforts aimed at helping us to engage with our community partners and local college students. Collaborating with community members in the co-production of knowledge is a goal of HIMB, as is creating STEM-oriented career paths for local students via internships. These positions will go a long way towards fulfilling these goals for the community around Kāne'ohe Bay.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.