

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. By Debora Halbert, Vice President for Academic Strategy University of Hawai'i System

HB 2720 HD2 - RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on HB 2720 HD2, which establishes a collective bargaining unit for graduate assistants employed by the University of Hawai'i and community college system.

The University of Hawai'i (UH) has had ongoing discussions with the Graduate Student Organization (the UH Mānoa leadership entity for graduate students) elected representatives regarding this issue, and UH is deliberately not taking a position on the issue of unionization.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this measure.