

## UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ÕNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology Senate Committee on Higher Education Monday, March 18, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. By Debora Halbert, Vice President for Academic Strategy University of Hawai'i System

HB 2720 HD3 – RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Chairs Aquino and Kim, Vice Chairs Moriwaki and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on HB 2720 HD3, 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.