



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM
Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Education
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by
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SB 2254 – RELATING TO EDUCATION

Chair Kidani, Vice-Chair Kim, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. The University of Hawaii provides the following comments on SB 2254.

The University of Hawaii does not have a position on the goal of SB 2254 which is to remove the sunset date on Act 111 (2015) permitting the University Laboratory (Charter) School (ULS) to utilize a selective admissions process. However, the University needs to make clear that the particular provision in Hawaii Revised Statutes that was amended by Act 111 (2015), is not a requirement of the University of Hawaii or its college of education. Chapter 203D-34, HRS, specifies that enrollment at a public charter school shall not discriminate against any student or limit admission based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender sexual orientation, income level, disability, level of proficiency in the English language, need for special education services, or academic or athletic ability.”

Act 111 (2015), amended Chapter 203D-34, for enrollment provided that “(d) Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, the university laboratory school may conform its student enrollment profile to the standard prescribed by the University of Hawaii college of education in order to meet the University of Hawaii college of education’s research requirements.” Neither the University of Hawaii nor its college of education has any requirement for research, or otherwise, on the University Laboratory School (ULS) necessary for this exemption. I do not want Legislators to be of the misperception that the University of Hawaii is the reason that ULS requires this exemption. The University does not have a position either way as to whether ULS gets this exemption or not.

The University of Hawaii does do research in schools – including at the University Laboratory School. As such, the University does research in schools that do not have this exemption. Whether ULS has this exemption or not will not necessarily affect whether UH or its college of education does or does not do future research at ULS.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.