



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Government Reform
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By
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SB 2384 SD2 – RELATING TO HAWAII PRODUCTS PREFERENCE

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i is in support of SB 2384 SD2, Relating to Hawaii Products Preference.

In the last several years, there have been no situations where the Hawai'i Products Preference has changed the award of a project. As such, the University supports the idea of eliminating the Hawai'i Products Preference as this would streamline the bid preparation and bid award phases for projects.

SB 2384 SD2 narrows the application of the Hawai'i Products Preference to “agricultural goods, value-added products, and commodities” instead of eliminating the preference in its entirety. Should this measure continue to move forward, the University recommends that definitions of these terms be added to the bill as “value-added products” and “commodities” could be broadly construed with a nearly limitless application without additional clarification.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2384 SD2.