Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Higher Education and Technology Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. Bv

Garret T. Yoshimi, Vice President for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer University of Hawai'i System

SCR 120 SD1 – URGING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT AN EFFICIENT, STREAMLINED PROCESS TO REVIEW REQUESTS MADE BY ELECTRIC UTILITIES TO PROVIDE MIDDLE MILE BROADBAND SERVICES IN FURTHERANCE OF THE STATE'S EFFORTS TO EXPEDITE BROADBAND ACCESS TO UNSERVED AND UNDERSERVED AREAS

Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Clark, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i, representing the State's broadband interests, supports SCR 120 SD1, to encourage the Public Utilities Commission to consider and adopt a streamlined process for review and approval of requests made by electric utilities to provide middle mile broadband services in support of the State's efforts to expedite broadband access and equity, and promote robust, resilient and affordable broadband service for the State. The availability of such a streamlined process would help to avoid delays in provisioning new middle mile facilities and should help provide the Public Utilities Commission with an efficient path for its review and oversight of the electric utility requests in this area.

I apologize for the late submission, and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 120 SD1.