



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Government Operations
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by
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SCR 192/SR 185 – REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES TO
CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP A RECOMMENDATION FOR A
STATUTORY STANDARD FOR THE TREATMENT OF DELIBERATIVE AND
PREDECISIONAL AGENCY RECORDS

Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today.

The University of Hawai'i (University) supports SCR 192/SR 185, which requests the Office of Information Practices to convene a working group to develop a consensus on language for a new UIPA exception for agency records that are deliberative and pre-decisional which reasonably balances the public's interest in disclosure against the potential harm to the agency's ability to fully consider and make sound and informed decisions.

The University supports this resolution because the working group could identify specific areas critical to efficient agency operations and aid in defining parameters for satisfying public requests for records. The working group can thereby help achieve appropriate and needed balance between the public's interest in disclosure, and the public's need for government entities to be able to deliberate towards well-informed, stress-tested, and thoughtful decisions. The University would be pleased to assist with, or serve on, the working group if invited.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.