



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

By
Interim Dean Tetine Sentell
Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health
And
Michael Bruno, Provost
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 711 – RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice Chairs Elefante and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent on SB 711 which requires the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health to conduct a comparative study of all programming offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities in the State, for the purpose of identifying gaps in programming offered to female inmates.

The vision of the UH Mānoa Thompson School of Social Work & Public Health is achieving social justice and health equity for the people of Hawai'i and citizens in a changing world. This work is aligned with our vision and our faculty would welcome the opportunity to gather information which would enhance pathways toward gender parity in programs for incarcerated women.

We appreciate the appropriation of funds to support this important work.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or impact priorities as indicated in the University's Board of Regents Approved Executive Biennium Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.