

## UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM 'ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAI'I

Legislative Testimony Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

> Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Higher Education Thursday, March 30, 2023, at 3:07 p.m. By Debora Halbert Vice President for Academic Strategy University of Hawai'i System

SCR 79/SR 72 – URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONVENE WORKING GROUP TO CREATE A PLAN FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MARITIME COLLEGE AND TO ESTABLISH A MARITIME COLLEGE

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SCR 79/SR 72. These resolutions urge the University of Hawai'i to convene a working group to create a plan for establishing a maritime college.

The University of Hawai'i (UH) agrees with the observations of the many advantages establishment of a maritime college would bring to Hawai'i. The UH System strategic plan includes support for workforce development in areas of State need and efforts to provide more employment opportunities for UH graduates in Hawai'i. We would welcome participating in a working group to investigate the feasibility of standing up a maritime college in Hawai'i under the auspices of the UH System.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on these measures.