



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 Higher Education
Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.

By

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SB 2187 – RELATING TO THE LABOR EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2187, relating to the Labor Education Advisory Council. Although the Center for Labor Education and Research (CLEAR) is operationally housed at the University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu, the University of Hawai'i (UH) recognizes that CLEAR was created to provide labor education and support labor organizations across the entire State of Hawai'i, as authorized under Act 202 in 1976. Similarly, UH recognizes that the Labor Education and Advisory Council (LEAC), which interacts closely with CLEAR, was established to represent the trade union movement across the entire state.

For these reasons, UH supports the proposed amendment authorizing LEAC to advise the UH President as well as the UH West O'ahu Chancellor. Indeed, this was one of the recommendations included in the report submitted to the Legislature by the HR 142 (2023) Working Group, in which UH participated.

The second proposed amendment, requiring the UH President and UH West O'ahu Chancellor to provide written responses to LEAC's formal advice resolutions, is a matter that was not addressed in the HR 142 Working Group report. If such an amendment is established as law, UH is prepared to comply.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.