



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 Labor and Technology
January 31, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

By

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SB 1345 – MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
COST ITEMS

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i (University) **supports** SB 1345, Making Emergency Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items. This bill makes emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Units 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 13, and 14 and their excluded counterparts for fiscal year 2024-2025.

On behalf of the State of Hawai'i, the University requests that SB 1345 be amended to include bargaining units 1 and 10. On November 18, 2024, an arbitration settled a dispute between the United Public Workers and the University of Hawai'i regarding temporary hazard pay for bargaining units 1 and 10. While we do not have the final figures yet, we estimate this cost to be approximately \$7 million. We respectfully request the inclusion of money for this arbitration award in this measure. Other arbitrations for these same bargaining units with the State could potentially resolve soon as well. Having this bill accommodate Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 13 and 14 would be timely.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.