



Testimony for the upcoming BOR meeting

1 message

John Galas <galasj@hawaii.edu>

Mon, Feb 3, 2025 at 6:27 PM

To: bor.testimony@hawaii.edu

Cc: Zeven Anderson-Leonard <zeven@hawaii.edu>

Aloha,

Please see Pi Gamma Mu testimony for entrance into the record regarding the recent federal executive orders. This testimony is for the upcoming hearing this Thursday.

V/r

John Galas



Pi Gamma Mu Testimony for 6 Feb BOR meeting.pdf

44K

University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Over the past two weeks, the federal government issued a series of executive orders. The Alpha Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu strongly denounces these measures by the federal government and asks that the Board of Regents (BOR) also denounce these orders. Specific requests are:

1. We request you reaffirm the university's commitment to a safe campus free of threats of violence and fear in all its forms, including but not limited to federal law enforcement actions (raids, arrests, and detainments) and federal law enforcement surveillance operations (field operations, field surveillance, and technical and cyber operations).
2. We request that the University protect employee and student records and only comply when there is a valid court order, and the university member can be notified and consented.
3. We request that the university legal counsel presume bad faith interpretation by the federal government of the United States Code and Constitution.
4. We request that the University reaffirm the First Amendment rights of all members (faculty, employees, and staff) to free expression. This includes views on various theories that may be perceived as controversial, political views, and gender expression.
5. Narrowly complying with a request for information if it is indicated that the federal government intends to utilize the requested information is a fundamental abuse of the law. An example would be using Title IX complaints as a pretext for law enforcement actions.
6. We request the university review all agreements, including data agreements and requests for information, with the federal government to assess the ethical implications on university members and their families' safety.
7. We request the university thoroughly review all computer matching agreements and similar agreements with the federal government (and third parties providing data to the federal government) to ensure the original intent and legal basis are being adhered to. Student, alumni, faculty, and employee data used for, but not including, withholding funds appropriated by Congress, law enforcement actions, surveillance operations, and punitive personal administrative functions should be halted, noticed, reversed, and prohibited.
8. The use of targeted big data analysis, machine learning, and any other forms of artificial intelligence to target members of this university in the form of an enemies list should be strongly denounced, and the university should make efforts to protect its members.
- 9.

We expect the situation with the federal government will only get worse. The university must reaffirm its values and prepare to fight unlawful and unconstitutional acts aimed at destroying our democracy. What binds us as a people is the spirit of Aloha, but no one should doubt our pono. "A'oha hope e ho'i ai." !

PI Gamma Mu Executive Committee

Public Testimony Form - University of Hawaii Board of Regents

Please provide your testimony on this form for the next University of Hawaii Board of Regents meeting. Make sure you include all the requested information so that the Board of Regents is able to clearly understand the testimony provided.

*****All written testimony submitted are public documents. Therefore, any testimony submitted is public information and will be posted on the board's website.***

Your Name (required) *

Mahinaokalani Robbins

Your Organization (optional)

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

mahinaok@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR - III.B. Update on Recent Federal Presidential Executive Orders

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

As a kanaka maoli and student of the University of Hawai'i system, I want to know what UH is doing to protect its students, faculty, and staff from the executive orders targeting women, people of color, mahu, veterans, immigrants, and other marginalized groups.

[Your Testimony \(pdf or word\)](#)

No file attached

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Your Name (required) *

Rose Gallo

Your Organization (optional)

University of Hawaii

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

rgallo@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR - III.B. Update on Recent Federal Presidential Executive Orders

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

In light of the recent Presidential Executive Orders, I hope that the Board of Regents will commit to providing support within the University of Hawaii to support research activities, faculty, and students who may be affected by them. Specifically, I hope the university will prioritize ensuring that research and instruction related to climate change will be able to continue in some capacity and that researchers who have lost access to federal funding will not be left to their own devices and held to unreasonable standards of career and degree progress given these setbacks. Additionally, I hope the university will prioritize finding new ways of providing support to LGBTQ, ethnic minority, disabled, and international students where existing support systems have been or will be withdrawn or where their education or even safety might be jeopardized.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

No file attached

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Your Name (required) *

William Nelson

Your Organization (optional)

SOEST

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

wnelson@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR - III.B. Update on Recent Federal Presidential Executive Orders

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

1) I would like the board of regents to make a commitment to the protection of DEI, immigrant and international students, Native Hawaiian studies, and the continuation of climate research here at UH. These items are foundational to the mission our University, and we, as an institution, cannot abandon them under any circumstances.

2) We would appreciate protections to be put in place for students against sudden loss of funding/salary due to reckless executive orders. Compared to the amounts of money the university spends on other projects, it would be logical to divert other resources to temporarily cover the rent and groceries of students who are reliant on federal funds. Even a small amount of support could stop students from losing their housing or having to abort the projects or degrees entirely.

3) Finally, it would be good if the board of regents dispersed information relevant to students' safety and livelihoods more rapidly in the future. Even just a declaration of support (as requested in item 1) could go a long way towards comforting students and staff.

Your Testimony (pdf or word)

No file attached

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Your Name (required) *

Kiriana Anderson

Your Organization (optional)

Your e-mail address (in case we need to reach you) *

kirianaa@hawaii.edu

Board of Regents Agenda Item (required) *

BOR - III.B. Update on Recent Federal Presidential Executive Orders

Your Position (required) *

Comments Only

Your Testimony/Comments

I am testifying on behalf of the recent federal Presidential Executive Orders that UH should commit to the protection of students, DEI, and climate research on all campuses.

[Your Testimony \(pdf or word\)](#)

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