

HB-1547

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 1:13:11 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/12/2019 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Takayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1547

Submitted on: 2/10/2019 6:02:42 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/12/2019 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Zelko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1547 that would help provide more meals for UH student-athletes!

Thank you,

Jennifer Zelko

HB-1547

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 9:35:19 AM

Testimony for LHE on 2/12/2019 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Audrey Takamine	Takamine Construction, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Audrey Takamine and I am a small business owner in Hilo. I strongly support HB 1547. I believe that funding is important in maintaining a successful student athletic program. Please join me and supporting our student athletes and University.

Thank you,

Audrey N. Takamine

Takamine Construction, Inc.

HB-1547

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 1:51:19 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/12/2019 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
SEAN SPENCER	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB1547. I think is ridiculous that the University of Hawaii only has the funds to feed our student-athletes once a day. Continued underfunding of the athletic department is unacceptable.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Lower & Higher Education
Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 2:15 p.m.

By
David A. K. Matlin, Athletic Director
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Athletics Department
And
Michael Bruno, PhD
Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

LATE

HB 1547 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Woodson, Vice Chairs Hashem and Perruso, and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Athletics Department (UHM Athletics) in support of the intent of HB 1547 provided it does not adversely affect UH priorities as set in our budget request. This measure provides funding in support of a Division I collegiate athletics program for the State of Hawai'i.

UHM Athletics is very appreciative of the intent of HB 1547 to support its Division I athletics program with increased funding that could be used to expand its meals program for student athletes. Providing certain meals is an important health and wellness component of UHM Athletics' efforts to enhance student athlete success.

UHM Athletics is striving to improve its bottom line, while still allowing the University to host a Division I collegiate athletics program for its student athletes, students, the community and the state as a whole. While the department has made strides with various recent initiatives such as its multimedia rights partnership with IMG College, its "All Sports" apparel partnership with Under Armour, and its travel partnership with Hawaiian Airlines, UHM Athletics continues to have to overcome uniquely higher costs than its peers have. In 2017, Hawai'i had \$7.2M of higher expenses that are unique to Hawai'i such as higher travel costs due to the longer distanced traveled, travel subsidies required by conference opponents to play in Hawai'i, etc. If not for the unique higher costs, UHM Athletics would have reported budget surpluses rather than deficits for the past several years.

Additional funding, as intended by HB 1547, would help UHM Athletics address its operating costs in general, and for meal costs specifically. During this legislative session, UHM Athletics has as its priorities that it is asking the Legislature to consider are the reinstatement of \$2.7M of operating support as recurring from non-recurring, and allow special funded positions to be reclassified to general funded. Either or both of

those initiatives would provide support of the athletic program on a more general basis and not targeted specifically to a single cost component such as meals.

UHM Athletics is very appreciative of any funding the Legislature might offer in support of the athletics program at the University, including HB 1547. In order of priority, the higher and more flexible operating funding that would result from reinstating the \$2.7M as recurring and/or the reclassification of the positions to general funded, would be a higher priority than the funding offered through HB 1547. However, all funding in support of the program is appreciated and will be utilized in support of the student athletes.

LATE

HB-1547

Submitted on: 2/11/2019 4:20:58 PM

Testimony for LHE on 2/12/2019 2:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments: