

LATE

HB-1320-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/22/2018 6:48:27 AM

Testimony for HRE on 3/22/2018 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wai H. Low	Testifying for Institute of Clinical Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine	Comments	Yes

Comments:

This bill is intended to protect students from a few bad for-profit schools, by requiring disclosure of "for profit entity doing business in Hawaii" . However there are also a few bad non-profit schools. I think because of recent events regarding closure of a few for-profit schools has prompt this bill to sanction for profit schools. If the legislators presume that for-profit school are bad then why not just require the for-profit schools to convert into non-profit schools. Requiring "For Profit on Signage" is just absurd. Thank you for your consideration.

Dr. Wai Hoa Low, DAOM, MBA, L.Ac.



LATE

To: The Honorable Kai Kahele, Chair
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair
Senate Higher Education Committee

From: University of Phoenix

Re: HB 1320 HD1– Relating to Post-Secondary Education

Date: Thursday, March 22, 2018
1:20 p.m., Room 224

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Mercado Kim and members of the committee,

For the record my name is Annie Macapagal and I am here on behalf of University of Phoenix to express our concerns with HB 1320 HD1. The University of Phoenix has been a member of the community in Hawaii for over 25 years with locations on Oahu. The University also offers quality online programs for those students who may choose not to attend a brick and mortar institution.

HB 1320 Singles Out Institutions Based on Tax Status

We are concerned that the bill treats similarly situated colleges and university differently based solely on tax status. We understand that this measure seeks to prevent potential students from being misled by requiring for-profit institutions to clearly disclose in all catalogs, promotional materials, electronic media, signage, and contracts for instruction that the institution is a for-profit business. However, we believe that such a disclosure would not lead to additional protections for students, but rather cause confusion. Private post-secondary institutions are held to the same standards for authorization by the Hawaii Post-Secondary Education Authorization Program. This bill would create a distinction between similarly situated institutions based solely on a fact that is meaningless for the purpose of authorizing institutions to offer education in Hawaii. The bill also contains overly broad language lumping all for-profit institutions negatively together based solely on tax status.

University of Phoenix has a long history of providing high quality career relevant higher education to working adults in Hawaii. Currently, there are over 1,000 Hawaii Residents attending the University either at local locations on Oahu or online. Additionally, we have approximately 120 faculty members from Hawaii. It seems this legislation's intent is to favor some institutions over others based simply on an institution's tax status, rather than concerning itself with real protections for students attending all colleges and universities in Hawaii. University of Phoenix, as a private institution whose tax status is for-profit, strives to provide high quality and accessible educational programs for all Hawaii residents who might not otherwise be able to access higher education.

In conclusion, University of Phoenix believes that HB 1320 HD1 does little to create meaningful or value added benefits for students in Hawaii, but attempts to single out for differential treatment institutions solely based on their tax status. If you should have any additional questions please don't hesitate to contact me at 808.544.8300 or amacapagal@wik.com