



LATE

KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Time: 9:35 a.m.
Date: April 4, 2017
Where: Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY
By Ka'ano'i Walk
Kamehameha Schools

To: Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee

RE: **HB 1594, HD1, SD1, Relating to the University of Hawai'i Promise Program**

E ka Luna Ho'omalua Tokuda, ka Hope Luna Ho'omalua Dela Cruz, a me nā Lālā o ke Kōmike o nā Loa'a a me nā Ho'olilo o ka 'Aha Kenekoa, aloha! My name is Ka'ano'i Walk and I serve as the Senior Policy Analyst of the Kūamahi Community Education Group of Kamehameha Schools.

This bill establishes the University of Hawai'i Promise Program to provide scholarships for the unmet direct cost needs of qualified students enrolled at any campus of the University of Hawai'i system. It appropriates funds to establish and implement the program. We are writing to **support** this measure. We believe that establishing the University of Hawai'i Promise Program is an important step toward ensuring post-secondary success for all of Hawai'i's students, especially Native Hawaiians.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an organization striving to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success, Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

'A'ohe hana nui ke alu 'ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui.