



Testimony to the Board of Regents
May 16, 2013

Chairman Martinson and members of the Board of Regents,

On behalf of the University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA), I wish to testify on the lack of action by the 2013 Legislature to approve H.B. 822 that would have allocated \$23 million to the University of Hawaii to cover the 3% salary adjustments set forth in the 2009-2015 Agreement between UHPA and the BOR. UHPA is committed to continuing to work with both the Governor and members of the Legislature to fund these provisions in our collective bargaining agreement. Such funding approval is consistent with both the terms of the contract and the provisions of HRS Chapter 89. The funding of negotiated salary increases for Bargaining Unit 7 is also consistent with appropriations for the salary and wage increases to all public sector bargaining units, HGEA, UPW, and HSTA, that reached agreements this year for same time periods as those covered by the 2009-2015 UHPA/BOR Agreement.

UHPA will diligently work in cooperation with the UH administration and the Board of Regents to seek the full funding of the \$23 million in the supplement appropriations made during the 2014 Legislative Session.

However, I must point out that the offer by UHPA to participate in assisting the UH administration in its legislative efforts, especially in relationship to budget allocations, has been made repeatedly and often over the prior years, but despite all the good intentions, UHPA is never called on to be a joint-partner with the UH administration in such efforts. It is only when the UH administration finds a budget item or bill they believe is in trouble that UHPA will then be given a call to ask for assistance. It is always too little; too late. There is never a collaborative or coordinated effort to engage in lobbying before or during the session, nor an offer to UHPA to jointly speak with legislators or administration officials in the Governor's Office while issues are still under consideration. We are never seen together.

It is my hope that the Board of Regents can find a way to have UHPA as a partner with respect to advocacy on behalf of the University, in both community and legislative venues. UHPA stands ready to work with you for the betterment of our public university system.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. N. Musto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

J. N. Musto, Ph.D.
Executive Director

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
PROFESSIONAL ASSEMBLY