



House Committee on Higher Education
Honorable Andrew Takuya Garrett, Chair
Honorable Terez Amato, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony in Opposition to S.B. 741, Relating to the University of Hawaii

Hearing: March 14, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ben Creps. I am a staff attorney at the Public First Law Center, a nonprofit organization that promotes government transparency. Thank you for the opportunity to respectfully submit testimony in **opposition** to S.B. 741.

We specifically oppose the Sunshine Law exemption provided at page 2, lines 4 - 12 and respectfully ask that it be struck from this measure.

The language of the proposed exemption is overly broad, convoluted, and the exemption it creates is unclear. Any exemptions to chapter 92 of the Hawai`i Revised Statutes (HRS) should be clearly articulated and narrowly defined. And existing exemptions under HRS § 92-5(a) provide more than adequate protections. The proposed exemption is thus unnecessary.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in opposition to S.B. 741.

