

**Leeward Community College--Faculty Senate
Report of the Legislative Relations Committee
March 13, 2020**

Committee Status

Presently, this is a solo committee. I welcome anyone who needs a committee to join me.

Updates

[Legislative Update](#) (March 10, 2020) analysis from Kalbert Young, UHVP Budget and Finance, CFO

(NOTE: Bills that are still alive in the legislature crossed over from the Senate to House and vice versa on March 5, 2020)

Report highlights:

On the CIP budget, UH initial request for FY2021 is \$236.8 million. HB 2725 represents the House draft of the CIP budget and includes \$23.1 million for FY21 in general obligation bond funding for various projects.

One budget item stood out that highlights the disconnect between reality on campuses and the governor's office. The UHCCs asked for 12 Mental Health Licensed Psychologists at \$1.6 mil. The governor's budget cut that to 6 with a budget of \$800K.

HB2250 Proposes a Hawai'i Promise funding for 4-yr campus with a 3-year requirement for beneficiaries to work in Hawai'i.

\$1.4 million has been appropriated in the House version of the budget for new medical cohort on the island of Maui.

Read Young's report in its entirety at [Legislative Updates](#)

UHPA Negotiations Update: Salary Increase for Faculty (This information was sent to faculty via email on March 11, 2020)

Current contract expires June 2021. Language in Article XXX, Duration, of the 2017-2021 UHPA-BOR Agreement states, "...a salary enhancement to be effective on January 2, 2020, and a salary enhancement to be effective on January 1, 2021, equivalent to the average negotiated step movement plans in other bargaining units or 1.2%, whichever is higher."

This means a minimum of a 1.2% salary increase is owed to UHPA under the existing contract, this increase should have been effective January 1, 2020. But, UHPA is "monitoring the outcomes of the other bargaining units because" potentially, "the salary increase for faculty could have been more than

1.2%". If so, UHPA will reopen negotiations for this higher rate. There is one bargaining unit awaiting arbitration.

Future contract negotiations for July 2021 onward have not yet begun.

NOTE: I have inquired whether UHPA can take the 1.2% as is without waiting to renegotiate based on the outcome of other bargaining units; and who makes this decision.

RELEVANT BILLS PENDING IN THE LEGISLATURE	
Bill No. Status	Description
SB 2313, SD2 (SSCR3154) Status	RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES. Prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to enter into a nondisclosure agreement pertaining to sexual harassment or sexual assault. Prohibits an employer from retaliating against an employee for disclosing or discussing sexual harassment or sexual assault. (SD2)
SB 2576, SD2 (SSCR3005) Status	RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENTS FOR STATE CONTRIBUTIONS. Specifies exemptions for the University of Hawaii from sections 87A-39 and 88-125, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to enhance transparency and accountability regarding fringe benefit reimbursement exemptions under the cost-sharing agreement between the University of Hawaii and Department of Budget and Finance. (SD2)
SB 2010, SD1 (SSCR2977) Status	RELATING TO THE UNIFORM EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT. Establishes The Uniform Employee and Student Online Privacy Protection Act that adopts uniform laws on protecting the online accounts of employees, prospective employees, unpaid interns, applicants, students, and prospective students from employers and educational institutions. (SD1)
SB 2866, SD2 (SSCR3193) Status	RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND EMPLOYEE-BENEFICIARY MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS. Amends section 87A-40, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to mandate that new retired employees pay their share of health benefits premiums through monthly electronic deductions from their Employees' Retirement System pension or their financial institution.
SB 2861, SD2 (SSCR3058) Status	RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS. Provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Unit (7) [UHPA] and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit's exclusive representative, for fiscal biennium 2019-2021. Bill scheduled to be heard by LAB on Tuesday, 03-17-20 9:00AM in House conference room 309.
SB 2402, SD2 (SSCR3278) Status	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM. Authorizes a court to order the forfeiture of Employees' Retirement System benefits of an ERS member, former member, or retirant upon conviction of the individual for a felony related to the State or county employment of the

	individual. Authorizes designated beneficiaries to receive ERS benefits upon the death of the ERS member, former member, or retirant convicted of the felony. (SD2)	
<u>HB 1959, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR757-20)</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF A MINOR. Requires a studio teacher to accompany, supervise, and advocate on behalf of a minor whenever the minor is on set and a variance from the work hour restrictions to allowable theatrical employment is granted, when employed for theatrical purposes. Defines "studio teacher". (HD1) Update 3/10: scheduled hearing 03-13-20 2:45PM in conference room 229.	
<u>HB 2088, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR783-20)</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO EDUCATION. Establishes a working group to create a state plan to make FAFSA completion a statewide graduation requirement and an opt-out waiver for FAFSA completion by the 2022-2023 school year. Appropriates funds.	
<u>HB 2603, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR776-20)</u> <u>Status & Testimony</u>	RELATING TO EDUCATION. Requires the department of education to establish a pilot program that provides grants for high school students enrolled in a career academy program to enroll in college courses through the running start program or other similar programs that allow students to earn college credits that are applicable to the requirements for a career discipline of high need, including teaching. Appropriates funds for the pilot program. Expands the eligibility criteria for the Hawaii Educator Loan Program to include students who have graduated from a career academy; provided that the loan recipient agrees to teach for three years at a public school in the State. Appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii educator loan program revolving fund. Requires reports to legislature.	

Submitted by:
Sania Fa'amaile Betty Ickes, Chair