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by
Vassilis L. Syrmos
Vice President for Research and Innovation
University of Hawaiʻi System

HB 2356 HD2 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports HB 2356 HD2.

This measure seeks to increase the cap on Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) awards to businesses applying for the Hawaii Small Business Innovation Research Grant and the Small Business Technology Transfer Grant Program. Additionally, it clarifies both the purchase of renewable energy systems and training on manufacturing equipment as eligible expenses under the Manufacturing Development Grant Program; and appropriates funds to the SBIR, MAP and Accelerator Grant programs.

Like HTDC, UH shares a similar vision to help establish a thriving innovation-based sector to boost the local economy, create jobs and to develop a highly skilled technical workforce. Support for HTDC's award programs are crucial to moving these efforts forward in the state.

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the opportunity to testify on this measure.