Testimony Presented to the
House Committee on Economic Development
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.
by
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HB 2356 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chair Holt, Vice Chair Lamosao, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports HB 2356.

The University of Hawai'i shares a similar vision with the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) to help establish a thriving innovation-based sector to boost the local economy, create jobs and to develop a highly skilled technical workforce.

This measure seeks to increase the cap on HTDC's awards to businesses applying for the Hawaii Small Business Innovation Research Grant and the Small Business Technology Transfer Grant Program. Additionally, the measure classifies both the purchase of renewable energy systems and training on manufacturing equipment as eligible expenses under the Manufacturing Development Grant Program.

Continued or increased cap amounts for HTDC's award programs are crucial to moving innovation, commercialization and manufacturing efforts forward in the state.

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