
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EXTEND ITS LAND LEASE WITH
THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO CONTINUE TO
OPERATE THE MANOA INNOVATION CENTER.

1 WHEREAS, a strong diversified economy is essential to the
2 well-being of the population of Hawaii; and
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4 WHEREAS, state policies should be aligned to encourage
5 employment within the commercial high technology industry sector
6 in order for the State to remain productive and withstand the
7 changes and challenges of the twenty-first century economy; and
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9 WHEREAS, education and innovation infrastructure are key to
10 sustaining and growing Hawaii's commercial high technology
11 industry sector; and
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13 WHEREAS, the High Technology Development Corporation is a
14 state agency that was established by the Legislature in 1983 to
15 facilitate the development and growth of Hawaii's commercial
16 high technology industry sector; and
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18 WHEREAS, the High Technology Development Corporation
19 developed the Manoa Innovation Center, the first and only
20 innovation and incubation facility on Oahu that offers an array
21 of client services, facilities, and equipment to assist new and
22 early stage technology companies; and
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24 WHEREAS, the Manoa Innovation Center has incubated and
25 graduated over a hundred companies, more than eighty per cent of
26 which have become successful technology companies in the private
27 sector, including Digital Island, Blue Lava Wireless, and Hoku
28 Scientific; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Manoa Innovation Center was built with state
31 funds on public lands that were subsequently transferred to the
32 University of Hawaii; and



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WHEREAS, since its second year of operation, the High Technology Development Corporation has operated the Manoa Innovation Center without the benefit of general funds and relies solely on receipts and capital improvement program funds to operate its statewide programs; and

WHEREAS, the High Technology Development Corporation's current land lease with the University of Hawaii expires in 2015; and

WHEREAS, if the land lease is not extended, the State will lose the Manoa Innovation Center, a technology infrastructure and economic development engine that is difficult to replace; and

WHEREAS, an alternative site for the Manoa Innovation Center is unfeasible because the success of the center is due in large part to its close-proximity to the University of Hawaii Manoa campus and its research activities and student interns; and

WHEREAS, in addition, high costs and changes in federal law limiting the use of state capital improvement program funds for projects involving private activity inhibit the construction of a similar facility today; and

WHEREAS, even if state funding was available, the development of a new facility would take a minimum of four years or more; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii should extend its land lease with the High Technology Development Corporation to provide the High Technology Development Corporation with sufficient time to make alternate arrangements for the Manoa Innovation Center; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii is urged to extend its current land lease agreement with the High Technology Development Corporation, located on 2800 Woodlawn Drive, Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii, identified as Tax Map Key 2-9-26: Por. 3, 37, and 38, for five years in order to find

1 and replace or develop and construct a new facility in Manoa to
2 continue the High Technology Development Corporation's current
3 operations at the Manoa Innovation Center; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board
7 of Regents of the University of Hawaii and the Chair of the
8 Board of Directors of the High Technology Development
9 Corporation.

