

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 13, 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2480
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns,
to which was referred S.B. No. 2480, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE AND
DEVELOPMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to develop Hawaii's technology
workforce by:

- (1) Establishing the Science Technology and Education
Special Fund (Special Fund) within the University of
Hawaii (UH) system, to hold appropriations, private
contributions, and other funding for Science,
Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) related
programs;
- (2) Appropriating general funds into the Special Fund for
robotics, the Problem-based, Applied Learning Program,
and the Research Experiences for Teachers Program;
- (3) Appropriating general funds to the Hawaii 3Ts School
Technology Laboratories Fund to provide matching funds
for the Environmental and Spatial Technology initiative;
and



- (4) Appropriating federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program funds and general funds for STEM programs and K-12 creative media education programs.

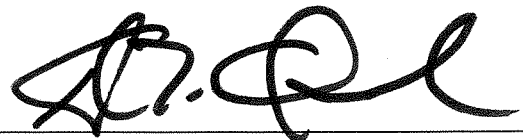
The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, University of Hawaii, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, and numerous concerned individuals testified in support of this measure. The Department of Education supported the intent of this measure. The Department on Budget and Finance and several concerned individuals provided comments.

Your Committee recognizes the need for further funding of technology and science-based education, and notes that support for these innovative STEM programs is an initial step toward the creation of a high-technology workforce in Hawaii. However, your Committee has concerns about the creation of the Special Fund, as it may not meet the special fund requirements of section 37-52.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this bill by changing its effective date to July 1, 2034, to encourage further discussion. Technical, nonsubstantive amendments were also made for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2480, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2480, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committees on Higher Education and Human Services & Housing.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Economic
Development & Business
Concerns,



KYLE T. YAMASHITA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Economic Development & Business Concerns

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2480, SD2	Committee Referral: EDB, HED/HSH, FIN	Date: 3/11/08		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EDB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. YAMASHITA, Kyle T. (C)	✓			
2. WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
3. BERG, Lyla B., Ph.D.	✓			
4. BROWER, Tom	✓			
5. CHANG, Jerry L.	✓			
6. HANOHANO, Faye P.	✓			
7. HERKES, Robert N.	✓			
8. MANAHAN, Joey	✓			
9. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
10. YAMANE, Ryan I.	✓			
11. CHING, Corinne W.L.				✓
12. MARUMOTO, Barbara C.	✓			
TOTAL (12)	11	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office				