

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



HB 2931 RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY MASTER PLAN

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Development and
Business Concerns

Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 8:30 a.m.

by
James R. Gaines, Vice President for Research
University of Hawaii System

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State Capitol, Conference Room 325

HB 2931 Relating to a Technology Master Plan

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

The University of Hawaii supports HB 2931 which would create a high technology industry task force to develop a stakeholder-driven State Master Plan for High Technology, subject to automatic review and update of the plan every two years.

As the largest science and technology organization in the State of Hawaii, the University has a vested interest in the task force and its resulting State Master Plan for High Technology. Many of our Federal funding agencies are requiring evidence that their awards--especially in infrastructure and large, center-like awards--are not only meeting the needs of the nation, but also those of the state, as defined in an overarching science and technology plan.

In addition, the National Science Foundation, in their report *Cyberinfrastructure Vision for 21st Century Discovery* (<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/nsf0728/index.jsp>), communicates the importance of cyberinfrastructure (computing power, connectivity, and human resources) as the foundation of science and engineering in the future. As such, we propose that the bill be amended to:

- Specify the State's chief technology officer among the task force members.
- Require that the task force include the integration of cyberinfrastructure as a central theme in the execution of its tasks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, February 5, 2008

Committee: House Committee on Economic
Development and Business Concerns

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Board: Education

Person Testifying: Donna Ikeda, Chairperson, Board of Education

Title of Bill: H.B. No. 2931, Relating to a Technology Master Plan

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the High Technology Industry Task Force within the High Technology Development Corporation to develop a state master plan for high technology. Specifies that the task force members shall be appointed by the Governor, of which the Chairperson of the Board of the Education or the Chairperson's designee shall serve as a member of the task force. Appropriates funds for the task force to carry out the purposes specified in the bill.

Board's Position: Chairperson Yamashita, Vice Chairperson Wakai, and members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business Concerns, thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on H.B. No. 2931.

The Board recognizes the role and place that technology has in the education of students. Technology is changing the way students learn and teachers teach. Technology also has an important role in preparing students for future employment and other opportunities.

The Board supports the Department of Education's efforts to enhance student learning and instruction through technology, such as through online learning and distance learning. The use of technology in the public education system has led to greater transparency and access to student and school data, such as through DOE's eSIS (Electronic Student Information System), which includes the electronic student report cards, and eCSSS (Electronic Comprehensive Student Support System), which includes the Integrated Special Education Database, Comprehensive Student Support System, and Safe School Information System. Technology has also enhanced the management of student data, improved communications, and increased operational efficiencies in the public school system.

We believe that education has a significant part in and impact on the development of a state master plan for technology.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments on
H.B. No. 2931.

Statement of
YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS CONCERNS
Tuesday February 5, 2008
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HB 2931 RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY MASTER PLAN.

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business Concerns.

The High Technology Development Corporation supports the concept of HB 2931 which envisions a essential and long term need to further strengthen and diversify our economy through *collaborative* and *comprehensive planning* and *implementation* for a vibrant and sustainable technology industry. There have been many good ideas introduced this legislative session that support the State's economic development goals. We note, however, that this appropriation was not included in the Executive's Supplemental Budget, and request that this appropriation not displace the priorities contained in that budget.

We offer these additional comments for your consideration: (a) the list of task force members includes positions of decision-makers; however, we recommend that the task force be committed to reaching out to the greater tech community as well as the economic development stakeholders to establish a "buy in" from the get go; (b) we suggest this task force purpose align with the goals of 2050 Sustainability Plan (when adopted) and consider the results from studies the State and private entities have already invested in or in the process of issuing (e.g., any findings and recommendations from the Hawaii Innovation Council created by Executive Order in 2007), the Broadband Task Force created by the legislature in 2007; and, (c) that we pay special attention to identify and embrace the variety of needs, challenges and opportunities

presented by the diversity of both our tech sectors and the environment faced by all the major islands of this State.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of HB 2931.