

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2480, S.D. 2, H.D. 1

**LATE TESTIMONY**

March 18, 2008

RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Senate Bill No. 2480, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, establishes the Science Technology and Education Special Fund to provide additional resources and expertise to stimulate the interest and achievement of students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills.

The special revolving fund would be funded through legislative appropriations, private contributions, and other sources. The bill further provides that the appropriation under Act 111, SLH 2007, for FY 09 would be deposited into the special fund.

As a matter of general policy, this department does not support the creation of any special or revolving fund which does not meet the requirements of Sections 37-52.3 or 37-52.4 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Special or revolving funds should: 1) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries of the program; 2) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 3) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. It is difficult to determine whether the fund will be self-sustaining.

# LATE TESTIMONY

Date of Hearing: March 18, 2008

Committee: House Higher Education and  
Human Services & Housing

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent

Title: S.B. 2480, SD2, HD1 (HSCR 1071-08), Relating to Technology  
Workforce and Development

Purpose: Establishes the Science, technology, and Education Special Fund.  
Redirects the fiscal year 2008-2009, Act 111, SLH 2007, appropriation  
to the new fund. Appropriates additional funds for robotics, Research  
Experiences for Teachers, Problem-based, Applied Learning, and  
Project EAST programs. Appropriates federal Temporary Assistance  
for Needy Families and general funds for STEM and K-12 creative  
media education programs. (SB2480 HD1)

Department's Position: While the Department of Education (DOE) supports STEM and  
creative media education programs. The DOE recommends that the  
STEM and creative media education programs to be facilitated jointly  
by the University of Hawaii and the DOE.

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



LILLIAN B. KOLLER, ESQ.  
DIRECTOR  
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 18, 2008

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Honorable Jerry L. Chang, Chair  
House Committee on Higher Education  
  
The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
House Committee on Human Services & Housing

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2480, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 - RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY  
WORKFORCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Hearing: Tuesday, March 18, 2008; 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 309, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this legislation is to establish the Science, Technology, Education Special Fund and appropriates funding, including Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and general funds for STEM and K-12 creative media education programs.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of this bill but cannot support it as written.

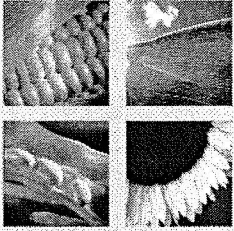
Appropriating TANF funds to provide education is prohibited under the Federal law governing TANF. TANF funds can only be used for non-traditional, before and after school hour, non-academic programs and services.

Also, the appropriation of Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds proposed in this bill may replace or adversely impact the priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget. Act 213, Section 204, SLH 2007, Relating to the State Budget, capped Federal TANF funds at \$12,200,000, for TANF Purposes 3 and 4, for the prevention and reduction of out-of-wedlock pregnancies and the maintenance of two-parent families, respectively, through which the STEM program could be funded. Further, this year's Supplemental Budget bill, H.B. 2500, H.D. 1, reduces both the total Federal TANF fund appropriation ceiling by \$27 million in Section 199 and the TANF fund appropriation ceiling for purposes 3 and 4 by \$9.4 million to \$2.8 million in Section 204.1.

The Legislature will need to increase the ceiling cap for both the total TANF program and TANF Purposes 3 and 4 to implement this bill.

We request that the passage of this bill does not replace nor adversely affect the priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget, nor result in any cuts to existing TANF-funded programs, services and benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.



# Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

*Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii*

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Testimony by: Sarah Styan  
SB 2480hd1, Relating to Technology Workforce and Development  
House HED/HSB Committees

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

Room 309: 2:00 pm

**LATE TESTIMONY**

Position: Support

Chairs Chang and Shimabukuro and Members of the House HED/HSB Committees:

My name is Sarah Styan. I am a Kauai resident, President of HCIA and research scientist of Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Waimea Research Station. The HCIA represents seed production and research facilities operating in Hawaii for nearly 40 years. The HCIA is comprised of five member companies that farm an estimated 8,000 acres on four islands, valued at \$97.6 million in operating budget (2006/2007 HASS). We are proud members of Hawaii's diversified agriculture and life sciences industries.

We applaud this measure that seeks to grow a highly skilled workforce and innovation in Hawaii through a comprehensive system of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), with focus on developing these skills in children from the middle school through high school years and inclusion of post-secondary education systems. Agriculture biotechnology, and specifically the seed corn industry has been a cornerstone of this innovation for nearly 40 years.

Through its member companies, HCIA provides more than 1,000 workers with employment among our five companies on the islands of Molokai, Kauai, Maui and Oahu. These jobs range from field worker to technicians to scientists. Like many other businesses in Hawaii, we struggle with finding qualified employees. This measure is key to developing a strong workforce of Hawaii youth for high-value, high-paying jobs in an industry like the seed crop industry.

We offer our assistance in the development of the STEM programs, particularly for agricultural science curriculum development and agriculture workforce development. I can be reached at 808-338-8300 ext. 113 if there are any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony.

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**Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committees on Higher Education and Human Services & Housing**

March 18, 2008 at 2:00 pm  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

by  
**Magdy F. Iskander**

Professor and Director, Hawaii Center for Advanced Communications  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa College of Engineering

Presented by

Cheryl Sato Ishii  
Assistant Specialist, College of Engineering  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

**LATE TESTIMONY**

**SB2480, SD2, HD1 – RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE AND  
DEVELOPMENT**

Chair Jerry L. Chang, Vice Chair Joe Bertram, III and Members of the Committee on  
Higher Education

Chair Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads, and Members of the  
Committee on Human Services and Housing

My name is Magdy Iskander. I am Professor and Director of the Hawaii Center for  
Advanced Communications at the University of Hawaii College of Engineering.

**I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 2480,  
SD2, HD1 and the Legislature's commitment to STEM education and technology  
workforce development.**

These are some reasons why:

- The Hawaii Center for Advanced Communications is committed to the continued  
success of this visionary initiative, which is already achieving excellent results in  
Hawaii's middle schools.
  - Examples of these successes include:
    - In 2007, 5 schools, 15 teachers and over 900 students benefitted  
from RET. With Act 111 support and collaboration with DoE, we  
expect at least 6-7 new schools to be part of program rollout by the  
end of this academic year, effectively doubling participation  
numbers
    - Teachers participate in site visits, workshops, demonstrations and  
tours, as well as reviews of relevant science concepts,  
methodology and real-world applications, with ongoing

interaction as well as technical support in the form of state of the art hardware and software, including laptops, PDAs, probes, and more

- RET has also assisted in establishing and expanding wireless networks at several participating schools.
  - Multi-media modules, hands-on lab activities, and cross-disciplinary learning models have been developed by HCAC faculty, undergraduate and graduate students and participating teachers.
- We look forward to continued collaboration between the University of Hawai'i, Hawai'i middle schools, the State DoE, corporate sponsors, proactive members of the community, and federal agencies such as the National Science Foundation which provided seed funding for the program. Examples of RET program leverage and national recognition include:
- NSF Citation of our program as a national best practice. An article featuring RET Hawaii has been requested by NSF and will be published in their Newsletters and congressional reports. NSF contributed \$110k to help launch the pilot project in 2004 with teacher stipend, materials and supply.
  - Many of the laptops and wireless network facilities for earlier stages of the program were provided through corporate sponsorships from Motorola and Kyocera Wireless.
  - A recently established alliance with the Partnership in Development Foundation provided subcontract funding in the amount of \$577,000 over three years to further expand RET to schools with high Native Hawaiian enrollment (over 50%) and requires the development of a parent component.
  - In 2008, the Hawaii RET program will receive a \$25k award from AT&T Foundation to enhance one successful O'ahu middle school program that already includes the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade level.
- We have met and worked with teachers and principals from many middle schools across the State and we are delighted with their high level of commitment and enthusiasm for introducing excitement and appreciation for learning Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). All of us understand the impact that this will have on creating a qualified work force, and ultimately, on economic development in the State.
- The RET program succeeds because it empowers teachers with innovations in technology and exciting practical applications that bring relevance, stimulate interest, and boost understanding of STEM related courses. RET has direct and positive impact on classroom teaching, and its long term benefits to today's teachers, the State's future technology work force and Hawaii's economic development are unequalled.

- I understand that this bill is an opportunity to address the impact of the significant delay in the release of ACT 111 funds. Its enactment will help ensure greater planning, stability, and sustainability of the RET program.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share with you these thoughts and provide supporting testimony.