

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, February 26, 2008

Committee: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Board: Education

Person Testifying: Donna R. Ikeda, Chairperson, Board of Education

Title of Bill: S.B. No. 2860, S.D. 1, Relating to a Technology Master Plan

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the Science and Technology Task Force within the University of Hawaii to: (1) evaluate the effectiveness of past and current technology-related legislation; (2) develop a master plan for the direction of science and technology in the State; (3) create guidelines for future science and technology legislation; and (4) submit recommendations for science and technology legislation to meet the goals in the master plan, with the report to be updated every two years thereafter. Specifies that the master plan and a report with proposed legislation be submitted to the Legislature and Governor prior to the 2009 Regular Session. Specifies that the Board of Education (Board) Chairperson or Board Chairperson's designee shall serve as a task force member. Appropriates funds for the task force.

Board's Position: Chairperson Baker, Vice Chairperson Tsutsui, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of the Board in support of S.B. No. 2860, S.D. 1.

Our public education system is one that values and affirms science and technology in the education of students. The Board recognizes the essential part that science and technology play in the instruction and delivery of educational services. The Board also recognizes the importance of science and technology in the curriculum to prepare students for post-secondary education, future employment, and other life opportunities and pursuits.

The Board has supported and continues to support the Department of Education's efforts to enhance student learning and instruction through technology, such as through online learning and distance learning. Technology is changing the ways students learn and teachers teach.

The use of technology in the public education system has led to greater transparency and access to student and school data, such as through the Department's Electronic Student Information System (eSIS) and Electronic Comprehensive Student Support System (eCSSS). Technology has enhanced the management of student data, improved communications, and increased operational efficiencies in the public school system.

The Board believes that education would be a critical component in the development of a state master plan for science and technology.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of S.B. No. 2860, S.D. 1.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways & Means
Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 10:45 a.m.

by

James R. Gaines

Vice President for Research, University of Hawaii System

SB 2860, SD 1 RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY MASTER PLAN

The University of Hawaii supports SB 2860, SD 1 which would create a science and technology task force to develop a stakeholder-driven State Master Plan for Science and 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 Science and 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.

With respect to Section 1, page 2, line 10 of the bill, "...*the University of Hawaii* will be competing for \$15,000,000 over [~~three~~] five years under the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR)." As such, we respectfully request that line 10 be amended to correctly reflect the five-year duration of the grant award.

The University thanks the Legislature for its strong work on this bill and for the continued recognition and support of the role of university research and education in the economic diversification of our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Written Statement of
YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Tuesday, February 26, 2008
10:45 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SB 2860 SD1 RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY MASTER PLAN.

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means.

The High Technology Development Corporation supports the concept of SB 2860 SD1 which envisions an 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on SB 2860 SD1.



SB2860 SD1: RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY MASTER PLAN

DATE: February 26, 2008
10:45 am., Conference Room 211

TO: Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Shan Tsutsui, Vice Chair

FROM: Lisa H. Gibson
President
Hawaii Science & Technology Council

RE: Testimony In Support of the Purpose and Intent of SB2860 SD1

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Science & Technology Council supports the purpose and intent of SB2860, SD1 and asks for your favorable consideration of this bill.

The Hawaii Science & Technology Council is a private tax-exempt 501(c)6 industry association with a 28-member board. The council serves Hawaii companies engaged in ocean sciences, agricultural biotechnology, astronomy, defense aerospace, biotech/life sciences, information & communication technology, energy, environmental technologies, and creative media.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

Lisa H. Gibson
President