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TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION,
BUSINESS & MILITARY AFFAIRS

TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2010

Tuesday, March 23, 2010
8:30 a.m.

WRITTEN COMMENTS ON

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 297 and HOUSE RESOLUTION 214
URGING GOOGLE INC. TO SELECT HAWAII AS A TEST SITE TO CONDUCT
THE GOOGLE GIGABIT BROADBAND INITIATIVE**

TO THE HONORABLE ANGUS MCKELVEY, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Ron Boyer, Acting Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in support of these resolutions.

Google's "Fiber for Communities" experiment proposes to bring 1-gigabit-per-second internet speed to one or more U.S. locations on a trial basis. House Concurrent Resolution 297 and House Resolution 214 urge Google to select Hawai'i as a test site for conducting its gigabit broadband initiative.

The Department concurs that Hawai'i would make an optimal location for Google to demonstrate the revolutionary benefits of high speed broadband, given the strong

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community interest, government support, ideal weather conditions, varied topography, near universal penetration of cable television, and the higher than average subscription rates for broadband usage.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of these resolutions.

Written Statement of
YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS, &
MILITARY AFFAIRS**
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

In consideration of
**HCR 297 AND HR 214 URGING GOOGLE INC. TO SELECT HAWAII AS A TEST
SITE TO CONDUCT THE GOOGLE GIGABIT BROADBAND INITIATIVE.**

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Choy, and Members of the House Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) supports House Concurrent Resolution 297 and House Resolution 214, which urges Google Inc. to select Hawaii as a test site to conduct the Google Gigabit Broadband Initiative.

Various stakeholders of both the State and the County government departments are coordinating and supporting each other to submit a successful application in response to Google's Request for Information. Further, each county plans to submit an application which support each other with the philosophy that "all of Hawaii" welcomes Google for its Gigabit Broadband Initiative. The initiative has the support of the Administration as well.

The public has shown their support via various grassroots initiatives, including:

- Become a Fan of "Gigabit HI" on Facebook
- <http://www.techhui.com/page/gigabit-hi>
- <http://HI-Google.org>

This resolution can be an effective vehicle in showing the Legislature's support, which can be included in the counties' applications to Google.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I would also like to take this opportunity to urge all the legislators to let their constituents know about this great opportunity for Hawaii to bring fiber-to-the-home, ultra-fast broadband access, which can better connect our neighborhoods, increase the capacity for online education, and invigorate the State's economy in general.