



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology
February 8, 2012 at 2:15 pm

By

David Lassner

Vice President for Information Technology/CIO, University of Hawai'i

SB2235 – RELATING TO COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2235. I offer this testimony both in my capacity as Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer of the University of Hawai'i System, and as the former Chair of the Hawai'i Broadband Task Force.

The importance of broadband to our educational, economic, social, cultural and medical well-being in the 21st century is now well-understood and incontrovertible. While there are many differences of opinion about the level of services necessary and the means to achieve them, this measure would establish a visionary objective that everyone should be able to agree on.

As noted in the Final Report of the Hawai'i Broadband Task Force, establishing this shared vision in statute can only help as we all work together to identify and execute specific next steps to bring the vision to fruition.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

BRIAN SCHATZ
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310

P.O. Box 541

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Phone Number: 586-2850

Fax Number: 586-2856

www.hawaii.gov/dcca

KEALI'I S. LOPEZ
DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2012

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Time: 2:15 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON SB 2235 - RELATING TO COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

TO THE HONORABLE CAROL FUKUNAGA, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

My name is Donn Yabusaki. I am the Administrator of the Cable Television Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). The Department appreciates the opportunity to provide written support for S.B. No. 2235.

The purpose of the bill is to promote enhanced communication infrastructure for Hawaii residents by carrying out the Hawaii Broadband Task Force's recommendation of establishing a forward-looking vision to guide policy and action to make Hawaii globally competitive. Specifically, the bill adds to the Hawaii state plan a policy to promote broadband services as critical infrastructure for the twenty-first century and to encourage public and private sectors to ensure access to broadband services in the State at prices comparable to the world's leading economies by 2018.

The Governor's Hawaii Broadband Initiative ("HBI") also recognizes that the development of world-class communications infrastructure is vital to the future of our State's economy and to the health, welfare and quality of life of all our residents. The HBI thus embraces this policy, charging the State's departments and agencies to work with other government and private entities to implement a plan to achieve world-class broadband access at an affordable price for all our citizens throughout the State.

The Department thus strongly supports the intent of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written support.

Written Statement of
YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
Wednesday, February 08, 2012
2:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of
SB 2235 RELATING TO COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY.

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology:

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) supports SB 2235 which adds promoting broadband services as a core policy in achieving the State's economic objectives.

With nearly all economic development efforts, projects take time to materialize and bear fruit. Particularly we see the efforts of the Hawaii Broadband Initiative as a key driver to the next step in economic development for the State. By committing to providing affordable broadband throughout Hawaii and advocating for its adoption, we are acknowledging the change in the way the world is doing business and positioning our State to compete in the new economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.