

Written Statement of  
**ROBBIE MELTON**  
**Executive Director & CEO**  
High Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON**  
**FINANCE**

Wednesday, April 2, 2014  
2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
In consideration of

**SB 2397 SD2 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee on Finance.

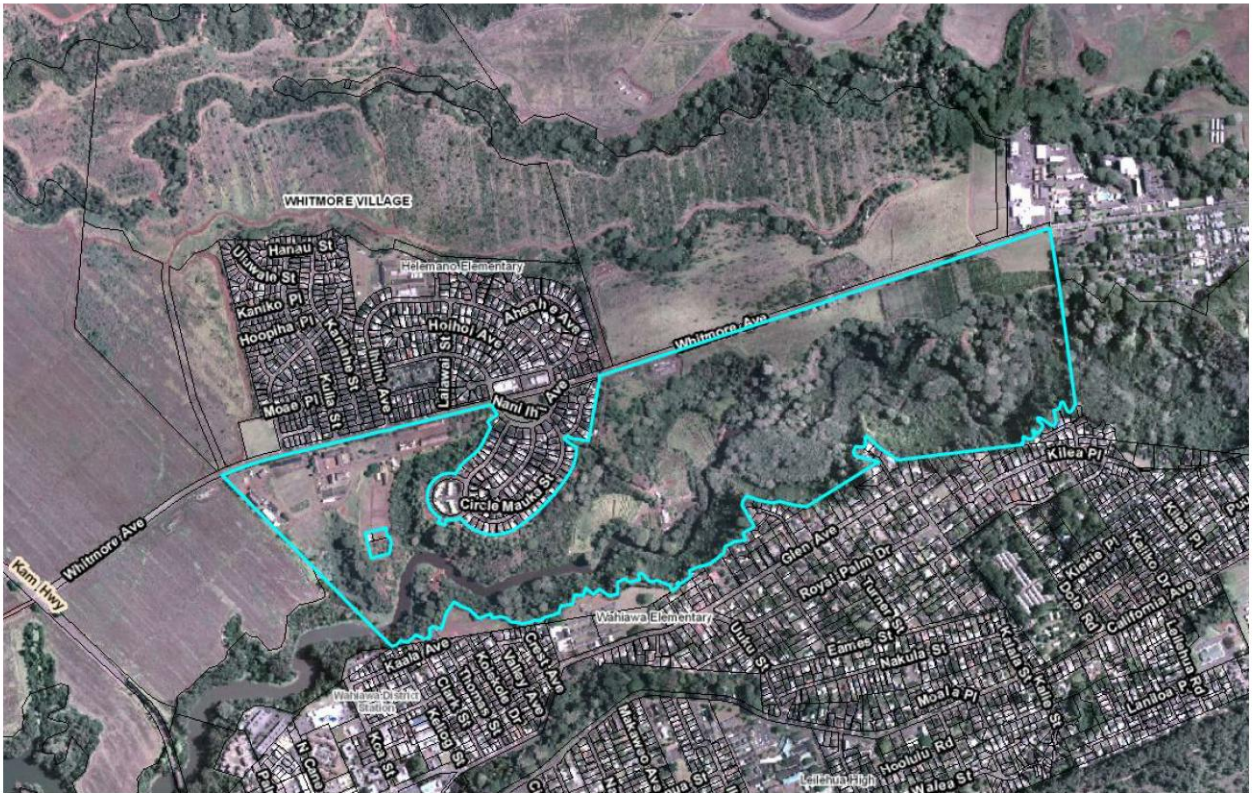
The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) **supports the intent** of SB 2397 SD2 relating to Economic Development. HTDC supports the intent to nurture and grow agricultural innovation and supporting startups and businesses in this arena.

HTDC's Innovate Hawaii program offers business support to manufacturers that would have synergies with an agricultural tech park. HTDC has statute to develop technology parks through HRS 206M-2 paragraph (1) and suggest section 3 of this bill is redundant and unnecessary. HTDC does not have resources to explore private sector partnerships in this area.

Though we support the intent of this measure, HTDC will need \$800,000 to research and build expertise in this focus area, plan and work with the community to create the programs and content of the tech park, dedicate resources to explore partnership opportunities, and solicit proposals to ensure the best use of State resources. This would be a project specific appropriation and should not replace or adversely impact the Administration's budget request. Without appropriation HTDC suggests that our agency would be best suited in a support role for this initiative, as part of a planning committee providing expertise in establishing technology parks and in entrepreneurship, rather than revising the HRS 206M.

HTDC does not offer comment on the location selected as identified by the TMK (71002004, 71002023, and 71002099 in Whitmore Village).

<http://gis.hicentral.com/FastMaps/ParcelZoning/>



Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor



**SCOTT E. ENRIGHT**  
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

**KEN H. KAKESAKO**  
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawaii  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
1428 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512  
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT  
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014  
2:00 P.M.  
Room 308**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2397 SENATE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Chairperson Luke and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 2397, Senate Draft 2. This bill requires the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) to develop an agricultural technology park on three properties in central Oahu. There is an appropriation to HTDC to establish the park.

In developing the agricultural technology park, HTDC will consult with the Housing Finance and Development Corporation, departments of Agriculture and Education, Agribusiness Development Corporation, and the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. The purpose of the Park is to build relationships and promoting collaboration between the agricultural and technology sectors to assist farmers and provide them with tools to succeed in the modern world. The Department of Agriculture supports the measure and defers to the High Technology Development Corporation and the Agribusiness Development Corporation who is in control of the 1,200 acres of agricultural land in central Oahu acquired from the Galbraith Estate.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our testimony.





SB 2397sd2, Relating to Economic Development  
House Finance Hearing  
Wednesday, April 2, 2014  
2:00 pm  
Conference Room 308

Testimony by: Larry Jefts  
Position: Support

Chair Luke and Members of the House Finance Committee:

I am Larry Jefts, co-owner of Sugarland Growers, Inc., a family run farm with more than 35 years experience of Hawaii farm experience on Molokai and Oahu.

Appreciation is expressed for the continued discussion of this measure. We support SB2397sd2, which seeks to establish an agricultural technology park that can bridge the agricultural and technology gap and be used to provide agritourism benefits. A coordinated plan for such an agricultural technology park will enable farmers to access technology to keep farm practices in step with contemporary market and regulatory demands.

Your support of this measure is appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony. I can be reached at (808) 688-2892 if there are any questions.



April 2, 2014

Before the House Committee on Finance, Economic Development & Business, and The Committee on Agriculture

***Re: Supporting Testimony to SB2397 SD2 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT***

Dear Chairs Sylvia Luke, Clift Tsuji, Jessica Wooley and Committee Members:

The WCBA strongly supports the development of an agricultural technology park

The State made a brilliant move when it acquired the parcels of lands near Whitmore Village which have the infrastructure and warehouse facilities that can support nearby farms to store and process agricultural products.

Establishing an agricultural technology park makes a lot of sense. The agricultural technology park will provide the knowledge and skills for farmers to select, install and maintain agricultural technology equipment.

The WCBA wants to ensure that the private sector technology and know-how is harnessed to help our farms to become a spearhead for agricultural growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The park with the support of the private sector, the State and the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture can provide technological expertise in areas such as global positioning systems (GPS), soil sampling, and mapping systems, and computer software.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. Benavitz Jr.", written in black ink.

Walter R. Benavitz Jr.  
WCBA Government Action Committee Chair

Wahiawa Community & Business Association  
P. O. 861408  
Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786

**finance1**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2014 6:14 PM  
**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** jbkampfer@aol.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM\*

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 3/31/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Kampfer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**To:** FINTestimony  
**Cc:** alex.kanamu@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM\*

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 4/1/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alex Kanamu	Individual	Support	No

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**SB2397**

Submitted on: 4/1/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alison Dela Pena	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**LATE**

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**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2397 on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM\*

**SB2397**

Submitted on: 4/1/2014

Testimony for FIN on Apr 2, 2014 14:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Gomes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759  
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921  
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

**LATE**

April 2, 2014

HEARING BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**TESTIMONY ON SB 2397, SD2**  
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Room 308  
2:00 PM

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

I am Christopher Manfredi, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,832 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

**HFB stands in strong support of SB 2397, SD2**, that creates an agricultural technology park under the high technology development corporation, within DBEDT. Hawaii Farm Bureau applauds the sponsors of this measure and offers the following comments.

We respectfully request that Hawaii Farm Bureau be specifically added to the list of agencies cited for consultation. The list, while not limited, identifies only government agencies. Government talking with government is typically not the best way to solve modern technological problems. Some of the most widely used and successful technologies are products of the private sector. Consultation with practical users of agricultural technology may reveal that the 'technology gap' is not as wide as the legislation suggests. Moreover, direct interaction with agricultural producers that need and ultimately would use technologies developed through this agricultural technology park is a link that is crucial to the success of the project. This is a prime example of an opportunity for public-private partnership.

**Please include the following amendment:**

**§206M- Guidelines.** (a) The board shall develop the agricultural technology park in consultation with but not limited to the following agencies: Hawaii housing finance and development corporation, department of agriculture, department of education, agribusiness development corporation, and University of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources, and Hawaii Farm Bureau.

We look forward to working together to further develop this initiative.

Please pass **SB 2397, SD2 as amended.**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this measure.