



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Higher Education
Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 1:15 P.M.
Conference Room 414, State Capitol**

LATE

**RE: HOUSE BILL 425 HD1 RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII**

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 425 HD1 makes certain sections of the State Code of Ethics inapplicable to technology transfer activities sponsored by University of Hawaii if the activities comply with the regulatory framework and research compliance program approved by the Board of Regents; requires the Board of Regents to submit written status reports.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,600+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber supports this bill as it would help expedite the commercialization of research from the University of Hawaii to provide information that would strengthen the local economy. This bill helps remedy many obstacles that currently exist from broad conflict of interest, fair treatment, and employment restrictions. Clarifying the State Ethics Code would prevent the deterrence of an efficient technology transfer.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.