



LATE

March 11, 2018

RE: HB2084, HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Technology,

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce supports business innovation in the state and in our region. Hawaii Technology Development Corporation HTDC works to innovate and create programs relevant to meet the changing technology industry in West Hawai'i. Our chamber supports HB2084 HD1 Part 1 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce exists to provide leadership and advocacy for a successful business environment in West Hawai'i. Our 501(c)(6) non-profit organization consists of 500 business members that represent a variety of industries and sectors including banking and financial services, construction and real estate, education and government, health and wellness, hospitality and tourism, retail and professional services, technology, tourism, transportation and more. We work to strengthen the local economy, represent business interest with government and promote our community.

Sincerely,

Wendy J. Laros
Executive Director, Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce

Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce

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HB-2084-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:42:55 AM

Testimony for ETT on 3/12/2018 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John E Sukup	Testifying for Expected X, LLC	Support	No

Comments:

Statement of

**John E. Sukup III
Principal Consultant**

Expected X

before the

Senate Committee on Economic Development Tourism and Technology

Monday, March 12, 2018

1:15 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In consideration of

HB583, HD1

RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Technology.

Expected X supports HB583, HD1 that appropriates funds to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation for administrative and operational costs.

We are a big data solutions consultancy located in Kailua-Kona, HI. We work with businesses that want to extract value from the data they collect and store. Data is considered to be "the new oil" of industry and is driving innovation and growth in nearly every industry.

HTDC is one of the few programs that has helped my agency develop. We owe it to the State of Hawai'i to encourage and grow technology as a clean industry beyond its heavy reliance on hospitality and tourism which is unsustainable at its current growth rate. This extends to public, private, and academic organizations both for-profit and non-profit.

Termination of the HTDC lease threatens the continued existence and operation of HTDC and is a matter of statewide concern. Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.