

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/29/2018 10:54:08 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randall Francisco	County of Kauai	Support	No

## Comments:

I am writing in support of this legislation and in recognition of the leadership and support of the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation's efforts in their outreach activities of continuing to grow and strengthen the counties of Kauai, Maui and Hawaii, especially, small businesses which are the growth sector of our economy. Mahalo. Randy Francisco, Kauai.

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/29/2018 4:22:05 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tom Leonard	TeleVoice 2000	Support	No

Comments:

Written Statement of  
**Richard and Linda OBryan**  
President and CEO Co-Owners  
USD Mint Inc (a Hawaii Corp)  
before the  
**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**HB2084**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

USD Mint Inc **supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

Tom Leonard of HTDC in Kailua-Kona has been Exceeding Thoughtful and Supportive with USD Mint Inc development and direction, and we Greatly Value the assistance that would Not have been available from any other source than HTDC proven experts in the community to help local biz

USD Mint Inc has been selected as core Currency Provider for a 99 Nation Program that will benefit Hawaii and over 1B of the most at risk nations, incl Hawaiians, and USD Mint would Not have been able to achieve this without the support and direction of Tom Leonard and the HTDC.

The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology biz. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to State resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Mahalo Nui, Richard and Linda OBryan of USD Mint Inc 413-628-1056 and 1059  
Kailua-Kona HQ, currently working from Hau'ula.

Testimony of Hermina M. Morita  
before the  
House Committee on Economic Development & Business  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

In Support of House Bill 2084, Relating to the Hawaii Technological Development Corporation

Aloha Chair Evans, Vice-Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My daughter, Misha Laney, is the owner of Aloha Aina Juice Café, which is located in Puhī, across the street from Kauai Community College.

In 2013, Misha purchased and operated an existing little juice bar kiosk within a grocery store. By June 2015 she had grown the juice bar business more than ten-fold. Unfortunately, her lease was terminated and the business concept was then taken over by the grocery store owner. Warren Doi, the HTDC neighbor island business mentor, had been a customer and encouraged her to think bigger.

When Misha obtained the lease for her current location, she needed a loan for \$25,000.00 to renovate and install a commercial kitchen and buy new equipment. With her excellent credit history and past business success with her juice bar she thought getting a business loan would be a slam/dunk with one of the big banks. She learned that her loan application, which was reviewed in Honolulu, was turned down because they didn't approve of the location. She was told that she could appeal the Honolulu decision with the local branch, but the Kauai branch would only loan her half the amount.

Together we reviewed and rewrote her business plan and decided to run it by Warren to get his input. Not only did Warren review the business plan, unknown to her he also went out and advocated for her. He showed someone from a smaller bank the business plan and today she is now developing a strong banking and working relationship with that bank which loaned her the full amount plus a line of credit. She has grown from a small kiosk to store front location with six employees, with the growth of the business restricted only by the size of her current retail and storage space. Warren has also helped her closely examine her manufacturing processes and equipment usage to help gain some time/labor saving efficiencies. Currently, with an another approved loan from the smaller bank, she is seeking a larger retail space and new equipment to increase productivity thanks to the support of the NI3 program.

Personally, I feel there is a Honolulu/mainland way of doing things and a neighbor island/local way of doing things. Misha is just a local girl trying to provide the best for her family by trying to run a successful business that reflects her values in supporting healthy foods and local agriculture. She is street smart and creative but uncomfortable maneuvering in certain aspects of the business world. The neighbor island business mentorship support program helps her to bridge both worlds. We both feel that Warren Doi, in his position of a HTDC neighbor island business mentor, has been such an important resource for people like her, to evaluate and

connect her to new opportunities to help her meet her business objectives with financial and technological expertise and support.

For many of Kauai's young adults who are starting their own small businesses and who are keen on promoting sustainability utilizing local resources and new technologies, the Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program is a very important resource. Please continue funding of this much needed neighbor island economic development support.

Hermina Morita  
P.O. Box 791  
Hanalei, Kauai, HI 96714  
e-mail: [herminamorita@gmail.com](mailto:herminamorita@gmail.com)

**KAI LAW, LIMITED LIABILITY LAW COMPANY**

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January 30, 18

House Committee on Economic Development & Business  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 @ 10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

RE: HB2084: RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

KAI LAW, LLLC supports HB2084 requiring reporting and appropriating funds for HTDC, so that HTDC can continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

My name is Kai Lawrence, and I am the founder and lead attorney for Kai Law LLLC. I have been mentored by Warren Doi of the NI3 program for the past two years. Warren's time, attention, and dedication has been invaluable to me and my business. Through the program, I have made excellent contacts, received guidance and advice to improve my marketing and efficiency, and have been exposed to many of the grants and programs offered by HTDC. One of the primary areas NI3 helped me with was in transitioning my practice from primarily litigation, to an estate-planning/business-transactional practice focusing on assisting families and small businesses focusing on technology/manufacturing . Contacts I made through NI3 were instrumental in providing guidance and advice through this transition. Today, the majority of my practice is estate-planning/transactional, which has been excellent for me and for my business.

The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to many State resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
0C663A0F0AE64E2...

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Kai Lawrence  
Attorney

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 6:08:57 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
dennis boy		Support	No

Comments:

The HTDC Neighbor Island program is a strong and welcome support for the work I do in assisting small businesses to form and expand here on Hawaii Island. Hawaii economic development doesn't happen just on Oahu. It's thriving in exciting ways on the Big Island and the HTDC is a component of that. Please continue the funding to provide that support.

Dennis Boyd, Director, West Hawaii Small Business Development Center

808-333-5000

Written Statement of  
**Seton Leonard**  
Manager  
`lo Quantitative  
before the  
**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**HB2084**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

`lo Quantitative **supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

`lo Quantitative was incorporated in early January with the help of the NI3 program. NI3 has been particularly useful in the early startup phase of the company in guiding `lo Quantitative through the incorporation process and helps to ensure this process is neither to painful or costly.

The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to many State resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Seton Leonard  
36-2333 Old Mamalahoe Hwy  
Laupahoehoe, HI 96764



**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 8:24:30 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John E Sukup	Expected X, LLC	Support	No

Comments:

I've worked with Tom Leonard on Hawai'i Island for a year. Him and this program are extremely important to the State. Hawai'i does not have significant numbers of leaders in technology. This program is helping the State become broader in the industries it serves. With continued funding I hope it begins to attract more and more tech-oriented professionals and jobs as the State needs to rely less and less on the tourism and hospitality industry -- industries that are unsustainable based on the year-over-year increase in visitors to a confined and limited-resource area such as the State of Hawai'i.

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 8:24:40 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maile Woodhall	The Kohala Center	Support	No

Comments:

Written Statement of

**Maile Woodhall**

Outreach Specialist

The Kohala Center

before the

**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

10:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of

**HB2084**

**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

The Kohala Center **supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

**The Kohala Center** is an independent, community-based center for research, conservation, and education. We turn research and ancestral knowledge into action, so that communities in Hawai'i and around the world can thrive—ecologically, economically, culturally, and socially. Our main areas of focus are **food, water, place, and people**.

The HTDC NI3's program provides resources, advice, and assistance that help small businesses grow and create measurable economic impact throughout Hawaii.

The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to many State resources.

The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to many State resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



Written Statement of  
**Robbie Melton**  
Executive Director & CEO  
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**HB2084**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) **supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

As part of HTDC's vision to create 80,000 new innovation jobs in Hawaii earning \$80,000 or more by 2030, HTDC launched the Neighbor Island Innovation Initiative (NI3) program in 2016 to provide business assistance to small and early-stage companies engaged in technology, manufacturing, or innovation based products/services on the neighbor islands.

The NI3 program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program removes time, distance, and money as barriers for entrepreneurs in need of assistance by meeting on their schedule, including nights and weekends, at their place of business, at no cost. The program provides an on-island representative with direct access to HTDC resources including experienced staff, workshops, federal and state grant programs, and relationships with partner agencies.

One example of a success story for the NI3 program is local entrepreneur Bobby Farias, founder of Kunoa Cattle Company on Kauai. Kunoa has been working to provide sustainable, local, quality beef in Hawaii. Our NI3 mentor, Warren Doi, has provided him with ongoing support through multiple evolutions of the business and helped introduce the company founders to financiers, outside investors, and the HTDC matching grant programs. The company has grown in the past year including the acquisition of Hawaii's largest USDA inspected butchery for beef and pork on Oahu and a retail partnership with Times Supermarkets on Oahu and Maui.

Due to budget constraints, HTDC started this program with one mentor on Kauai and Hawaii Island. On Hawaii Island, the program met with 35 prospects providing ongoing mentorship to 9 companies and 2 entrepreneurs. On Kauai, the program met with 55 prospects providing

ongoing mentorship to 16 companies and 4 entrepreneurs. Together the companies in the program have reported an economic impact of over \$6,000,000. HTDC has conducted showcase days on each island for economic development stakeholders to meet with select companies. In addition, the program has been an integral partner to other economic development efforts including starting the Business Plan Competition on Hawaii Island and Kilauea Ag Park development on Kauai.

HTDC has been funding the program with reserves from the HTDC special fund. HTDC does not have funding to continue the program beyond this year and will be forced to end the program. With proper funding, the program can contract additional mentors to provide support in Maui and a dedicated mentor for East Hawaii Island.

We support this initiative as long as it does not replace our priorities requested in the Executive Budget. Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

Written Statement of  
Warren Doi  
before the  
**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**HB2084**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

**Warren Doi supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

Please know that I have dedicated my professional life to help build an innovation-based future here at home because it can be an important part of economic prosperity for the State of Hawaii.

Being a local entrepreneur in addition to having years of experience starting companies in the Silicon Valley, I now help others find success through the neighbor island innovation initiative (NI3). My entire family history can be classified as a “kama’aina come home” story. After graduating from Cal Poly in the early 1990’s, I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in the global technology boom. I was a management consultant for Ernst & Young in London before I ventured into the startup world in the San Francisco Bay Area. The NI3 program allows me to bring this knowledge and experience home. In my opinion, the people of Hawaii have not shared enough in the prosperity of the global innovation economy. Everyday, we strive to bring more prosperity to Hawaii. HTDC is diversifying our economy by developing a flourishing technology industry that provides quality, high-paying jobs for Hawaii residents. HB2084 will directly help entrepreneurs and small business owners; in 2016, the program reported an economic impact of over \$6,000,000. Please continue to support this worthwhile program for the future of Hawaii. It’s value might be summarized best by those directly impacted (refer to the testimony from entrepreneurs on video): <https://vimeo.com/228912346>

The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to many State resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 12:53:26 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerald Kelii	Hawaiian Environment Solutions	Support	No

Comments:



# Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

*The Voice of Business*

**Testimony to the House Committee on Economic Development & Business  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.  
Conference Room 309, State Capitol**

**RE: HOUSE BILL 2084 RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY  
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2084, which requires reporting and appropriates funds for the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the neighbor islands.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ 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.

Since 2016, Neighbor Island Innovative Initiative (NI3) program has provided neighbor island small and early-stage companies engaged in technology, manufacturing, or innovation based products and services with business assistance through experience-specific mentorship and access to HTDC's resources. As such, this program has eliminated many of the barriers that are difficult for entrepreneurs to overcome in developing a sustainable and successful business. Our community needs more initiatives like the NI3 program to support innovation and entrepreneurship across the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.





January 30, 2018

Re: HB 2084 RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

Dear Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee on Economic Development and Business,

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce supports HB 2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HDTC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

The Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization with over 500 member businesses that represent a wide range of industries in the private, non-profit, and public sectors in the Kona and Kohala regions on the West side of the island of Hawai'i. Member businesses range in size from single-owner entrepreneurs to large, multinational corporations. Our organization exists to provide leadership and advocacy for a successful business environment in West Hawai'i.

Celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce has advocated for business innovation for decades. The Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) is important in providing expertise and support to businesses with a focus on technology and manufacturing. In addition, the program allows for better access to many state resources through an on-island representative. The businesses that benefit from this mentorship help to diversify and strengthen our economy in West Hawai'i. We believe this program helps to create a successful business environment in our region and our state.

Sincerely,

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

Written Statement of  
**Monica Umeda**  
Co-Founder  
Akabotics LLC  
before the  
**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**HB2084**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

Akabotics LLC **supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

Akabotics LLC is an environmental robotics startup company located on the Big Island of Hawaii. Through the Neighbors Island Initiative (NI3), we've received extremely valuable mentoring and support, without which we would've had to close our doors. The NI3 has assisted us with marketing research, introduced us to financial gurus to whip our books into shape, connected us with successful companies that have followed the same path we're pursuing, and assisted us in mapping out our manufacturing plan. With their help, we've been awarded an SBIR Phase 1 grant through which we've been able to hire 5 employees to conduct robotics research, here in Hawaii. We're currently on track with meeting the necessary milestones for our grant and will apply for a Phase 2 grant within the next year. If the NI3 does not continue to be funded, I'm certain that our Phase 2 proposal will not be as strong as it could, and our company and state could lose out on valuable seed funding and robotics jobs.

The NI3 program uniquely fills a gap in the available resources of support because the program provides mentorship with experience specific to technology and manufacturing businesses. The program also provides an on-island representative with direct access to many State resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 3:37:06 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Trujillo	The Water Machine	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 4:20:24 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jon Gibb	Mana Made LLC: Agri-Tourism & Farming Solutions	Support	No

Comments:

The SBIR and Island initiative has not only been an incredible impact upon myself, my employees, and my companies (I've now founded 3 different brands here in Hawaii due in large part to the Island initiative ) but has also I believe helped my community and set Hawaii as a new president of business. With as much technology and opportunity there is in the world, much of it in the past and the ideas that generate those technologies often left our home, our the talent and individuals who did so, to the mainland and California. As Hawaii now begins to encourage the growth of local technology and small business startups we are in the early stages of seeing incredible ventures staying here in Hawaii and supporting Hawaii and its communities.

I can not say enough good things about SBIR and what they and their teams have accomplished, and I cannot wait to see the positive impact it will continue on with here in Hawaii.

Warmest aloha and with kind regards,

Jon Gibb

Artist & Entrepreneur

Mana Bar Hawaii LLC

Bali Hai Photo & Video Inc.

The Aloha Agency Marketing Group

**LATE**

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 4:37:41 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ron Whitmore	Dept of Research & Development, Hawaii County	Support	No

Comments:

The County of Hawai'i supports House Bill 2084. The Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) has been exceptionally responsive to the needs of Hawai'i County by bringing innovative programs like the Neighbor Island Initiative (NI3) to Hawai'i Island and by actively collaborating with County and other agencies.

Hawai'i County has greatly benefited from the services provided by the HTDC Neighbor Island Mentor. The NI3 mentor has filled a critical gap in the County's entrepreneurial development ecosystem. He provides expert guidance in scaling enterprises, he links anyone who contacts him with the resources they need, and he collaborates actively with a growing network of small business and entrepreneurial support organizations, including the County of Hawai'i's Department of Research and Development.

The small high-tech community of innovative entrepreneurs on Hawai'i Island will be able to grow only with the continued support of programs like this one. The HTDC and its NI3 program are valued partners in Hawai'i County's business development efforts and should receive continued State support.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

**LATE**

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 8:03:03 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Real		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Legislators,

I am a small business owner on the Big Island. My company, Bokoa Farms LLC, does native reforestation and general forestry. I have been interested in this program for about a year, and I would like to support it because it could be the difference between success and failure in the early stages of growth. We are introducing some products made from invasive species, and we are reforesting koa in areas that are being damaged by strawberry guava. I hope you will support this bill. Mahalo!

David Real

Bokoa Farms LLC

**LATE**

**HB-2084**

Submitted on: 1/30/2018 10:34:21 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE  
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 309

RE: **Testimony in Support** of HB 2084, RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

To the Honorable Cindy Evans, Chair; the Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No. 2084, relating to the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation providing support and mentoring to the Neighbor Islands. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No. 2084 and support its passage.

House Bill No. 2084, is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation provides outreach and mentorship to innovative small businesses on the neighbor islands. Specifically, the DPH Platform states, "We recognize that the responsible use and development of technology in all its manifestations offers immense potential for our community, government, including institutions of higher education and business sectors. We encourage synergistic research, development, commercialization and educational programs to promote technological proficiency and innovation. In particular, we support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives in our public, private and charter schools as these prepare the next generation to address the needs of our state. We also support programs that facilitate incubator, i.e., start-up, opportunities for new and promising technologies, and encourage the local retention of our intellectual resources." (Platform of the DPH, P. 3, Lines 148-156 (2016)).

Given that House Bill No. 2084 appropriates funds to Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to continue its support and mentoring to the Neighbor Islands, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: [legislativepriorities@gmail.com](mailto:legislativepriorities@gmail.com), Tel.: (808) 258-8889



**LATE**

Written Statement of  
**Richard Bailey**  
Founder/President  
DewPoint Systems LLC  
before the  
**House Committee on Economic Development & Business**  
Wednesday, January 31, 2018  
10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of  
**HB2084**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

DewPoint Systems LLC **supports** HB2084 that requires reporting and appropriates funds for HTDC to continue providing outreach and mentorship support to innovative small businesses on the Neighbor Islands.

DewPoint Systems is a agriculture technology company located at the Natural energy Laboratory of Hawaii (NELHA). We are extremely grateful for NI3 presence in our island. We have used their expertise often and have been very pleased their outreach services they provide such as useful workshops, business mentoring, and business links. I have used HTDC services for many years but there is nothing like have a ON ISLAND REAL PERSON to talk to and visit.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to offer these comments in support of HB2084.

Aloha,  
Richard Bailey