



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 28, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

by

Vassilis L. Syrmos, Vice President for Research and Innovation
University of Hawai'i System

HB 598 HD1 – RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports this measure that proposes to establish a Cyber Hawai'i Pilot Project to plan, develop and implement a “cyber-ecosystem” to coordinate and support cyber activities related to readiness and resilience, education and workforce development, economic development and innovation.

Cyber threats are among the gravest national security dangers to the United States – as citizens and those in the private sector and government are increasingly confronted by a range of actors attempting to do harm through identity theft, cyber-enabled economic espionage, politically motivated cyberattacks and other malicious activity. It is also one of the most strategic threats that federal, state and private sector industries face in Hawai'i.

The University of Hawai'i is well-engaged in numerous cybersecurity research, education and workforce development initiatives, including the establishment of NSA-designated Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense & Research at UH Mānoa, Honolulu Community College and at UH West O'ahu; conducting annual joint cybersecurity exercises involving the Hawai'i National Guard, U.S. Coast Guard and a number of business, industry and government organizations; and annually hosting the GenCyber Camps that encourage STEM pathways in cybersecurity to middle and high school students.

Through its active engagements and partnerships with US PACOM, NSA Hawai'i, Military Affairs Council, CIO Council of Hawai'i and other influential organizations, UH is in perfect position to serve as the “quarterback” to coordinate and articulate a statewide “cyber-ecosystem” that will be able to share real-time threat intelligence with a trusted, vetted community and grow a skilled cybersecurity workforce here in the state of Hawai'i.

The University of Hawai'i would like to request that the Legislature pass this measure and appropriate \$250,000 to fund the project. To further demonstrate its commitment to this important initiative, UH pledges a 1-1 match of the appropriation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KATHRYN S. MATAYOSHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 02/28/2017
Time: 01:00 PM
Location: 308
Committee: House Finance

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0598, HD1 RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes a Cyber Hawaii Pilot Project in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation at the University of Hawaii to plan, develop, and implement a cyber ecosystem that addresses the many aspects of cybersecurity. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2038. (HD1)

Department's Position:

Chair Luke and members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of HB 598 HD1** which establishes a Cyber Hawaii Pilot Project to plan, develop, and implement a cyber ecosystem that addresses the many aspects of cybersecurity in Hawaii.

The Department of Education currently works closely and collaboratively with the University of Hawaii System, including its community colleges, to prepare our students for careers in technology related disciplines. The implementation of a pilot project related to Hawaii's cybersecurity requirements will provide our students with not only additional and continued technology based education curriculum, but also the additional opportunities for careers in Hawaii's technology and innovation economy.

Thank you again for your consideration of the Department of Education's **strong support** of HB 598 HD1.



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

February 28, 2017

TO: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair,
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice-Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2017
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: HB 598 HD1 Proposed Relating to Cybersecurity

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HB598 HD1 establishes a cybersecurity pilot project in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation at the University of Hawaii to plan, develop, and implement a cyber ecosystem to address the many aspects of cybersecurity, including workforce development, curriculum development, threat preparedness, and economic innovation.

The Department supports this bill provided its passage does not adversely affect priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request, and offers comments.

II. CURRENT LAW

Cybersecurity will be a growing concern as more of the economic and personal activities of Hawaii's people have some online component, which creates potential vulnerabilities and threatens critical infrastructure and industries. Other coordinated efforts such as the National and State Cyber Security Awareness Month in October have recognized that the shared vulnerabilities created by online activity entails the need for shared responsibility for such potential threats. However, more work is required to ensure that Hawaii's workforce is able to meet cybersecurity challenges in the coming years.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

The Department supports this bill as a way to build cybersecurity understanding and awareness into Hawaii's education, workforce development, and economic ecosystem, provided that its passage does not adversely affect priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request, and offers the following comments:

Cybersecurity is deeply intertwined with the opportunities for innovation afforded by advancements in digital technologies. A focus on cybersecurity can both ensure a cutting edge workforce while also protecting Hawaii from sophisticated cyber threats.

DLIR notes that currently it has grant funding of \$3,000,000 (American Apprenticeship Initiative) to develop apprenticeships in information technology, which may include cybersecurity. This measure, if enacted, could contribute to the development of information technology career pathways, including those needed in the essential cybersecurity field.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 1:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

RE: HOUSE BILL 598 HD1 RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 598 HD1, which establishes a Cyber Hawaii Pilot Project in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation at the University of Hawaii to plan, develop, and implement a cyber ecosystem that addresses the many aspects of cybersecurity.

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.

This bill would provide crucial support to plan, develop and implement a cyber security center at the University of Hawaii. This is an important project that should be implemented in this age of internet connectivity and rampant cyber threats around the world today. The bill would also provide the talent pipeline needed today by businesses in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Statement of
Nelson Kanemoto
President and CEO
Referentia Systems Incorporated
before the
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Tuesday, February 28, 2017
1:00 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 308
In consideration of
HB 598 HD 1
RELATING CYBERSECURITY



Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Committee on Finance. Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on HB 598 HD 1.

My name is Nelson Kanemoto, President and CEO of Referentia Systems Inc. Referentia strongly supports HB 598 HD1. Referentia Systems is a National Security Agency (NSA) Trusted Integrator headquartered in Hawaii and a nationally recognized provider of cybersecurity solutions for the federal government, the Department of Defense (DoD), and other critical infrastructure. Referentia has a strong track record of successful advanced solutions to address critical cybersecurity concerns threatening IT modernization including the Nation's smart grid.

As a developer of cybersecurity and advanced network solutions for critical infrastructure, Referentia understands the central role that broadband and the Internet plays in local, national and global economic development and modernization including the development of the smart grid, healthcare information exchange, transportation security, etc. as well as financial, tourism, military, and other key industries – all vulnerable to cyber threats.

Referentia is in full support of establishing a cyber Hawaii pilot project at the University of Hawaii to plan, develop and implement a cyber ecosystem to include education, workforce development, innovation and economic development in cybersecurity. A cybersecure Hawaii at the community level across the islands is critical for Hawaii's economic stability and internet safety of its citizens, businesses and especially, critical infrastructure.

For Hawaii to compete as an economic stronghold in the global marketplace, the cybersecurity of our critical infrastructure and our communities are key to driving innovation, modernization, economy development and job creation. Thank you again for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 598 HD1.