



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Thursday, February 20, 2020
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of
HB 2140, HD1
RELATING TO INVESTMENT IN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

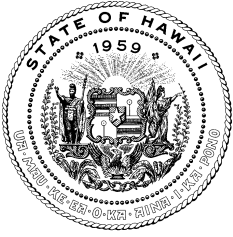
Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) appreciates the intent of HB 2140, HD1, which requires DBEDT to develop and implement an investment in innovative technologies plan to support the advancement of innovative technologies in the areas of energy, transportation, agriculture, and water, and appropriates funds.

DBEDT recognizes the importance of innovative technologies and solutions for the State of Hawaii to meet its zero emissions clean economy target. For DBEDT to effectively administer the process, we estimate that we will need \$200,000 in funds.

While DBEDT appreciates the appropriation in the bill, its passage should not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Thursday, February 20, 2020
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Comments in consideration of
HB 2140, HD1
RELATING TO INVESTMENT IN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 2140, HD1, which requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) to develop and implement an investment in innovative technologies plan to support the advancement of innovative technologies in the areas of energy, transportation, agriculture, and water, and appropriates funds.

The HSEO recognizes the important issues this bill seeks to address. Promoting innovative technologies is a critical path to achieving Hawaii's clean energy and decarbonization goals. While this bill requests DBEDT to undertake this effort, the mission is also in line with the HSEO, which could be the lead implementing agency. The HSEO is also charged with funding innovation with funds from the Energy Security Special Fund, subject to legislative appropriation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 308
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 AT 11:00 A.M.**

To The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair;
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Finance,

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2140 RELATING TO
INVESTMENT IN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES**

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce, with approximately 650 members. I am writing share our support of HB2140.

The Maui Chamber of Commerce supports HB2140 that requires DBEDT to develop and implement an investment in innovative technologies plan to support the advancement of innovative technologies in the areas of energy, transportation, agriculture and water. We appreciate the bill as economic development is one of our top legislative priorities and our state needs more diversification to help sustain our economy, bring in higher paying jobs and provide more opportunities. We think it is important that in moving forward with this plan, DBEDT review and include elements of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and have strategies that work towards diversifying our economic base.

Additionally, we support the requirement for the plan to be published online and have annual updates.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this matter and ask that this bill be passed.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 11:00 A.M.
Conference Room 308, State Capitol**

**RE: HB 2140 HD1, RELATING TO INVESTMENT IN INNOVATIVE
TECHNOLOGIES**

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

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2140 HD1, which requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to develop and implement an investment in innovative technologies plan to support the advancement of innovation technologies in the areas of energy, transportation, agriculture, and water, and appropriates funds.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing 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.

Additionally, as the exclusive representative in Hawaii for the National Association of Manufacturers, the Chamber has created the Manufacturing in Hawaii Initiative. This initiative is led by the Manufacturing in Hawaii Group and made up of business leaders from various fields and industries. Its mission is to enhance the opportunities and competitiveness of doing business in Hawaii by becoming an advocate and voice for the manufacturing industry in the State of Hawaii.

The Chamber continues to support the State's efforts to promote and foster innovation research and development in Hawaii. Innovation is a proven catalyst for economic growth and the creation of high-skilled and high-paying jobs. By taking the first step in identifying areas where the state could make technological advancements, we can help to promote innovation while at the same time work to attract investments that will strengthen Hawaii's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.



ELEMENTAL
EXCELERATOR

**Written Statement of Elemental Excelerator
before the House Committee on Finance
February 20, 2020**

**In consideration of [HB 2140 HD 1](#)
RELATING TO INVESTMENT IN INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

Elemental Excelerator submits **support for the intent of HB 2140 HD 1**, which:

1. Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to develop and implement an investment in innovative technologies plan to support the advancement of innovative technologies in the areas of energy, transportation, agriculture, and water.
2. Appropriates funds.

Elemental Excelerator is a Honolulu-based non-profit organization that supports climate positive startup companies that are helping solve Hawai'i's most urgent environmental problems in energy, transportation, agriculture, water, and the circular economy. Each year, we select 15-20 companies annually that best fit our mission and fund each company up to \$1 million. To date, we have awarded \$36 million to 99 companies resulting in over fifty demonstration projects in Hawai'i & the Asia Pacific.

We support the intent of HB 2140 because it brings necessary economic investments in climate change mitigation. According to the 2018 Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report, Hawai'i, over the next few decades, will have, "*An estimated \$19 billion of economic loss [that] would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located within the seal level-rise of exposure area with 3.2 feet of sea-level rise.*"¹ In our work, we have seen that every \$1 of public funding towards innovation for climate change mitigation and adaptation has shown to produce 20x that amount in follow-on investments. As of 2019, Elemental Excelerator funded \$36 million to our 99 portfolio companies which led them to raise \$790 million in follow-on funding. If the state were to increase public investments in innovation through this legislation, it could mitigate the effects of climate change while simultaneously attracting outside investments that enhance Hawai'i's economy.²

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Aki Marceau
Managing Director, Policy & Community

¹ Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report, January 2018, Retrieved from <https://climateadaptation.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/SLR-Report-January-2018.pdf>

² Elemental Excelerator 2019 Impact Report