



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

Date: 01/31/2020

Time: 09:30 AM

Location: 309

Committee: House Economic Development &
Business

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 2715 RELATING TO RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY GRANTS.

Purpose of Bill: Establishes the research and technology grant program within the high technology development corporation to provide grants to qualified research and technology companies in Hawaii for eligible projects. Establishes program guidelines and eligibility criteria for research and technology companies. Requires eligible projects to foster science, technology, engineering, or mathematics education at the K-12 or university levels. Appropriates funds to the program.

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 2715, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Board of Education-approved budget. The Department respectfully provides comments.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education is one component of a public school education in that it supports the Department's five promises to students through School Design and Innovation. STEM learning provides opportunities for students to engage in applied learning in the school and community and encourages creativity and innovation. Students can innovate through rigorous, technology-rich, problem-solving that enables them to address authentic community challenges and develop pathways to goals. The Department appreciates the requirement of the proposed grant program to include student voice as a criterion for eligibility. The proposed program aligns to the Department's mission to work with partners, families and communities to ensure that all students reach their aspirations, from early learning through college, career and citizenship.

The Department notes that teaching and learning is aligned to state standards in science, computer science, and mathematics rather than principles of robotics, engineering, science or mathematics. Additionally, complex areas may not have a "complex area curriculum" in each context area. Board of Education policies "105-1: Academic Program" and "105-3: Curriculum"

outline the role of schools in making curricular and instructional decisions to provide a quality, standards-based academic program. The Department's school design strategy prioritizes a flexible and adaptive approach, empowering each school to make decisions about specific contexts and partnerships for developing high quality and relevant learning experiences that are based on the needs of their students and the local community. Within the Department, a tri-level system comprised of the schools, complex areas and state offices respond and provide multiple instructional and infrastructure supports to meet a school's outcomes across the range of school design models.

The Department respectfully recommends that eligible grant proposals align to the Department's academic standards in science, mathematics, computer science and other applicable content areas.

Finally, the Department would also note that any grant-awarded programs impacting school time or taking place on Department property must adhere to all relevant Department policies and procedures.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 2715.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



Written Statement of
DR. PATRICK K. SULLIVAN
PRESIDENT/CEO OCEANIT

Before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

January 31, 2020
8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309
In Support of
HB2715 RELATING TO RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

To: Chair Angus McKelvey, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa and Members of the Economic Development & Business Committee

From: Dr. Patrick K. Sullivan, President/CEO

Re: Testimony in Support of HB2715

Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Committee Members:

*Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **in support of HB2715***

Oceanit currently employs about over 150 scientists, engineers and support staff. We regularly host interns, school classes, and conduct numerous outreach activities for elementary thru college levels students to introduce them to science and engineering careers.

We have developed and are currently implementing a statewide computer science curricula plan for public schools will allow students to work in and be interested in the STEM field. This bill acts as the stimulant to an innovative Hawai'i STEM economy that Hawai'i's future generation can be apart of.

HB-2715

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 8:06:15 AM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hermann Kugeler	Makai Ocean Engineering, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Makai Ocean Engineering, inc. STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB2715. Not only would this program help advance Hawaii's STEM education programs, it would also help local high tech companies maintain local talent and grow. This bill would support high-paying, highly-skilled professional jobs for our keiki here at home instead of losing our bright minds to the mainland states with more prevelant tech industries.

HB-2715

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 11:35:13 PM

Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ann Chung	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I strongly support HB2715. STEM or Science, Technology, Engineering and Math jobs are expected to grow twice as fast as non-STEM professions in the coming years but according to a recent study, Hawaii lags sorely behind. And it all begins with fostering interest in STEM at the k-12 and University levels. This bill is a very positive way to both nurture and cultivate students' interest in STEM fields while at the same time supporting our technology companies and STEM jobs. This will enhance and encourage more projects and programs focused on STEM with direct participation of K-12/university students.

LATE

HB-2715

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 3:40:01 PM
Testimony for EDB on 1/31/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Blazak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



MAUI
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VOICE OF BUSINESS

LATE

**HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 309
FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020 AT 9:30 A.M.**

To The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair;
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair; and
Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business;

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2715 RELATING TO
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY GRANTS**

Aloha, my name is Pamela Tumpap and I am the President of the Maui Chamber of Commerce representing approximately 650 businesses. I am writing share our support of HB2715.

The high technology development corporation and small business innovation research program are very important to help our various innovative, technology, and manufacturing sectors grow and prosper. Small businesses are known as the engines that drive new jobs and we support programs that help to grow and develop small businesses. We believe there is significant value in the innovation industry in our state and see that it brings additional jobs and resources to our communities. Further, this program adds additional value for our state as it is geared towards the innovation sector, which also helps grow STEM career opportunities for Hawaii's youth. We have appreciated partnering with the high technology development corporation on efforts in the past and look forward to partnering with them in the future. Therefore, we offer our strong support of this bill and request your support as well.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony and we hope you will support this bill.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap

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 Economic Development and Business
Friday, January 31, 2020 at 9:30 A.M.
Conference Room 309, State Capitol**

LATE

RE: HB 2715 RELATING TO RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 2715, which establishes the research and technology grant program within the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) to provide grants to qualified research and technology companies in Hawaii for eligible projects. This bill would also establish program guidelines and eligibility criteria for research and technology companies, and requires eligible projects to foster science, technology, engineering, or mathematics education at the K-12 or university levels.

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.

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. Additionally, the Chamber recognizes that STEM, or Science, Technology, Engineering and Math jobs are expected to grow twice as fast as non-STEM professions in the coming years, but Hawaii is still lagging. Helping to foster STEM at the K-12 or university levels is important for both our children and our economic future. It is our hope that through the development of this program, there are opportunities for the companies who participate to be able to hire the students from the grant program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.