



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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Senate Committee on Ways and Means
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by

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HB 598 HD2 – RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports this measure.

Cyber threats are among the gravest national security dangers to the U.S. – as citizens and those in the private sector and government are increasingly confronted by identity theft, cyber-enabled economic espionage, politically motivated cyberattacks and other malicious activity. It is also one of the most strategic threats that the federal, state and private sectors face in Hawai'i.

The University of Hawai'i continues to be a strong advocate of the proposed development of a Hawai'i “cyber-ecosystem” to coordinate and support cyber activities related to readiness and resilience, education and workforce development, economic development and innovation.

A statewide collaboration in Hawai'i's cyber ecosystem can lead to an expanding innovation economy and innovative approaches to increase Hawai'i's preparedness, readiness and resilience to cyber threats. Concurrently, it can lead to the development of a comprehensive cybersecurity education curriculum that spans the state's middle, intermediate and high schools, and continues into higher education and the workforce to address the unmet need for trained cybersecurity personnel in Hawai'i and abroad.

The University of Hawai'i stands by its previous testimony to contribute funding for activities related to the development of a Hawai'i cyber ecosystem comprising of private companies, nonprofit organizations, government and individuals involved in this battle.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.