



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

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House Committee on Economic Development & Business
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by

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HB 1565 – RELATING TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

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

The University of Hawai'i (UH) continues its commitment to accelerate the growth of its research and innovation activities to help diversify and stabilize the state's economy. One such effort is the Hawai'i Innovation Initiative, a bold and exciting partnership with the Hawai'i business community, to build a thriving innovation, research, education and training enterprise that will help develop a third major economic sector for the state, create high-quality living wage-jobs and address regional and global challenges.

The University of Hawai'i contributes to the research enterprise and the state by bringing in approximately \$400 million annually in research and non-research extramural awards. Its portfolio includes externally funded instructional and training programs, outreach and community services, and other non-research activities that benefit UH students and community. In June 2017, Governor David Ige signed into law two legislative measures, known as Act 38 and Act 39, to facilitate the transformation of discoveries and inventions generated by UH research into commercially viable enterprises that will broaden workforce opportunities for the state, help to diversify the economy, and deliver innovative and useful products to the public.

The University of Hawai'i continues to support research, innovation and economic development by maintaining Hawai'i's position as a globally recognized center for research and scientific discoveries.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.