



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

#### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

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Testimony Presented to the  
House Committee on Economic Development  
Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

by

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### HB 396 – RELATING TO HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Chair Holt, Vice Chair Lamosao, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports this bill that appropriates funds to support the Manufacturing Assistance Program (MAP) at the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation (HTDC).

HTDC's MAP offers Hawai'i-based manufacturers up to a 20 percent reimbursement of up to \$100,000 on qualified expenses to help them become globally competitive. These expenses include: equipment purchases, training, energy efficiency projects, and manufacturing feasibility studies.

The University of Hawai'i shares a similar vision with HTDC to help establish a thriving innovation-based sector to boost the local economy, create jobs and to develop a highly skilled technical workforce. Manufacturing is an important component of this process to help keep these businesses in Hawai'i.

With programs such as MAP, continued or increased funding for HTDC is crucial to moving innovation, commercialization and manufacturing efforts forward in the state.

The University of Hawai'i appreciates the opportunity to testify on this measure.