<u>**WRITTEN TESTIMONY**</u>
Presented Before the
Senate Committees on Economic Development and Taxation, and Education
Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224
by
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HB 3360, HD 1   RELATING TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Chairs Fukunaga and Sakamoto, Vice Chairs Espero and Tokuda, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawaii supports the intent of this bill which would establish a task force to develop the Hawaii State Science and Technology Plan. As the largest science and technology organization in the State of Hawaii, the University has a vested interest in the task force and its resulting State Science and Technology Plan. Many of our Federal funding agencies are requiring evidence that their awards--especially in infrastructure and large, center-like awards--are not only meeting the needs of the nation, but also those of the state, as defined in an overarching science and technology plan. The University is in the unique position of bringing all stakeholders to the table to address this important work. As such, we ask the Legislature to consider making the University of Hawaii System the administrative home for this task force, provided that this does not adversely affect priorities in the Board of Regents' FY 2009 Supplemental Budget.

The development of a science and technology plan must involve participation by all affected stakeholders if it is to be successfully implemented. We would also ask that the proposed task force membership be broadened to include representation from the industry itself; specifically, Hawaii science and technology companies.   This representation will be especially helpful in discussions regarding technology infrastructure investment and workforce development.

We gratefully acknowledge the Senate's incorporation of the foregoing recommendations in SB 2860, SD 2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.