



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

House Committees on Economic Revitalization & Business
and
Water, Land, & Ocean Resources
February 15, 2011 at 11:00am
by
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HB 526 RELATING TO HIGH TECHNOLOGY

Chairs McKelvey and Chang, Vice Chairs Choy and Har, and Members of the House Committees on Economic Revitalization and Business and Water, Land, and Ocean Resources:

At the recent E Kamakani Noi'i summit convened by the University to address the topic of innovation for Hawai'i's future growth, I was able to share the recommendations of a council of experts appointed in April 2010 to advise the University on how best to create the 21st-century capacity for innovation and technology transfer to achieve a high-value economy in Hawai'i. Their recommendations were to:

- Identify research as an industry in Hawai'i;
- Establish the Hawai'i Innovation Technology Exchange;
- Identify key areas for commercialization opportunities; and
- Integrate entrepreneurship into the curriculum.

The measure before you furthers this agenda by creating a technology park on O'ahu, where the highest concentration of University research, innovation, and population resides, but which is the only county without a technology park today.

We support HB 526 and the efforts of the High Technology Development Corporation to advance this initiative. We believe that a technology park on O'ahu with an incubation center and space for innovators, entrepreneurs and mature high tech companies will help the State create a climate of research and innovation with new high value job opportunities for the citizens of Hawai'i.