



March 15, 2017

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair  
The Honorable Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Economic Development, Tourism & Technology  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**RE: Testimony on HB 1329, HD1 – RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Kāne and I serve as the chair of the board of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a coalition of organizations and individuals who believe in improving government for every citizen for every service on every island. THG works to ensure that the benefits of the State of Hawai'i's business transformation and information technology modernization initiative ("the transformation") are fully realized. Our members, who are from all corners of the state, are united in the belief that there are opportunities for everyone to support better state government.

We recognize the state Legislature for its pivotal role in this transformation and we support transformation in its many forms – from improvements to the state's information technology infrastructure including more robust cybersecurity; to improvements in the state's business processes including improving access to services, making services more user-friendly, speeding up transactions when residents do business with the state, making state government more transparent, and providing up-to-date and accurate data for better decision-making.

Therefore, we are writing in **support** of HB 1329, HD1 relating to technology development. This bill appropriates funds for grants to participants in the 2017 and 2018 Hawaii annual code challenge so that the proof of concepts created during the challenges can be developed into prototypes and requires matching funds. We believe it is an important signal of the state's commitment to technology development.

We look forward to helping to promote streamlining, integrating and delivering government services that exceed the expectations of the public and the needs of Hawai'i's communities. And we seek opportunities to work together to achieve our state's transformation goals.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our support for the transformation.