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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Friday, February 26, 2021
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SB1421, SD1
RELATING TO DUAL USE TECHNOLOGY.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committees. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of SB1421, SD1, that creates a task force with the University of Hawaii and DBEDT that explores how dual use technology can be used to promote economic recovery and diversify the State's economy and makes an appropriation.

DBEDT supports the intent to diversify Hawaii's economy leveraging dual use technology. DBEDT points out that the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) administers the Hawaii Small Business Innovation Research (HSBIR) program, which serves many businesses from the dual-use community. HTDC has been working closely with UH to increase commercializing technologies for the Department of Defense through the Hawaii Tech Bridge program.

DBEDT supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



Written Statement of
Len Higashi
Acting Executive Director
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
before the
Senate Committee On Ways and Means
Friday, February 26, 2021
9:30 a.m.
Videoconference

In consideration of
SB1421, SD1
RELATING TO DUAL USE TECHNOLOGY.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee.

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) **supports** SB1421, SD1 that creates a task force within the department of business, economic development, and tourism consisting of representatives from the University of Hawaii, Hawaii Technology Development Corporation and the State's technological and business community that explores how dual use technology can be used to promote economic recovery and diversify the state's economy.

HTDC supports efforts to diversify Hawaii's economy through innovation. HTDC administers the Hawai'i Small Business Innovation Research (HSBIR) program serving many businesses from the dual-use community. We are working very closely with the University of Hawaii on pilot initiatives aimed at getting University technology to market and increasing the pipeline of new small businesses securing federal SBIR funds. We are also partnered with the University of Hawaii and the Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC formerly known as SPAWAR) Pacific on the Hawai'i Tech Bridge Program to facilitate new opportunities for local technology companies to provide solutions for the Navy. Exploring new project opportunities for dual-use technology is well aligned with HTDC's current priorities. HTDC prefers the original draft of the bill which included an appropriation.

HTDC looks forward to working with all stakeholders in moving dual-use technology forward. HTDC supports this bill provided it does not supplant the priorities in the Administration's budget. Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, February 26, 2021 at 9:30 A.M.
Written Testimony**

RE: SB 1421, SD 1, RELATING TO DUAL USE TECHNOLOGY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 1421, SD 1 which establishes a task force to explore dual use technology and its uses to promote economic recovery and diversify the State's economy.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

We appreciate the intent of this measure in exploring initiatives that help diversify and grow Hawaii's economy beyond the state's main economic driver: tourism. Given that Hawaii's second economic driver is the military, the associated defense economies and bridge for dual-use technology is commendable and The Chamber looks forward to being a valuable contributor in advancing economic opportunities and diversity in Hawaii's economy.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.