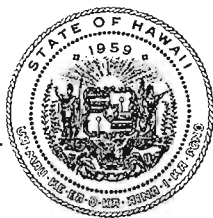


**SB 1195**

**EDT**



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**THEODORE E. LIU**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and TECHNOLOGY**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, and HAWAIIAN**  
**AFFAIRS**

Monday, March 2, 2009  
2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229  
in consideration of

**SB 1195**  
**RELATING TO THE ECONOMY**

Chairs Fukunaga and Hee, and Vice Chairs Baker and Tokuda, and members of the Senate Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism offers comments on Section 1 of SB 1195, which amends reporting requirements under HRS 201-19. We defer to the Office of Planning on other sections of the bill, which amend HRS 226, Hawaii State Plan.

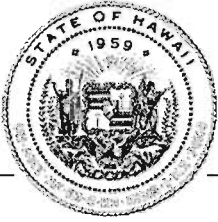
Section 1 of SB 1195 eliminates the requirement for DBEDT to submit an annual report on its divisions' and attached agencies' activities to assist emerging growth industries. It replaces that with the requirement for DBEDT to submit an annual report on criteria used to measure growth of emerging industry. It also requires the department to collaborate with the University of Hawaii and other organizations in updating reports on growth industries.

As you know, DBEDT has been developing the capacity to research emerging growth industries pursuant to Act 148 of 2007, which was codified as HRS 201-19. So far six studies

have been completed or are in progress under that research program, with more studies in the planning stages. Four of those studies have been developed by DBEDT staff while two others were contracted using first-year, Act 148 Funds.

It is our desire to provide the legislature with reports that address its needs. If the amended reporting requirement better serves the Legislature's need information and oversight, we will certainly adjust our reporting to address that. We are also supportive of collaboration with stakeholder and other research organizations to ensure that our studies address needs among stakeholders and benefit by input from organizations with parallel research interests.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**ABBEY SETH MEYER**  
Director, Office of Planning  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND TECHNOLOGY**  
AND  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE,  
AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
Monday, March 2, 2009  
2:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of  
**SB 1195**  
**RELATING TO THE ECONOMY.**

Chairs Fukunaga and Hee, Vice Chairs Baker and Tokuda, and Members of the Senate Committees on Economic Development and Technology and Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs.

Senate Bill 1195 amends the Hawaii State Planning Act, Chapter 226, HRS, to include references to science and technology initiatives in Hawaii. It also amends the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism's reporting requirement to the Legislature on the growth industries of Hawaii. Our testimony is confined to the amendments to Chapter 226, HRS.

We agree with the intent of the measure which acknowledges and elevates the science and technology industry within the objectives and policies of the Hawaii State Plan. However, we do not support passage of these amendments at this time.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism is working in collaboration with the Hawaii Statewide EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Simulate Competitive Research) Committee on the development of a Strategic Plan for Science and Technology in the State of Hawaii. A special sub-committee has been formed to prepare and complete this plan by the end of 2009. The plan will be submitted to the Legislature and Governor. The plan would provide the basis for amendments to Chapter 226, HRS. It may lead to a new section which would focus solely on science and technology similar to existing sections on agriculture, the visitor industry, federal expenditures and the information industry. Therefore, it may be premature to adopt these amendments at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**SB1195: Relating to the Economy**

DATE: March 2, 2009

TIME: 2:45 pm

PLACE: Conference Room 229

TO: Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology  
Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair,  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Jill Tokuda

FROM: Lisa Gibson  
President  
Hawaii Science & Technology Council

**RE: Testimony In Support of SB1195**

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Hawaii Science & Technology Council (HISciTech) supports SB1195 and the proposed amendments to the Hawaii State Planning Act to include references to science and technology initiatives in Hawaii.

*The Hawaii Science & Technology Council (HISciTech) is a 501(c)6 industry association with a 28-member board. HISciTech serves Hawaii companies engaged in ocean sciences, agricultural biotechnology, astronomy, defense aerospace, biotech/life sciences, information & communication technology, energy, environmental technologies, and creative media.*

Sincerely,

Lisa H. Gibson  
President  
Hawaii Science & Technology Council  
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