

SB 2548, SD1



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

Written Comments of
Barry Fukunaga
Chief of Staff to the Governor

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 10:05 AM
State Capitol, Room 211

S.B. 2548 S.D.1 RELATING TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Chair Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and members of the Committee:

The Office of the Governor provides comments in **opposition** to S.B. 2548, S.D.1, Relating to Information Technology, which proposes to establish within the office of the Governor a chief information officer and information technology steering committee to organize, manage, and oversee statewide information technology governance.

We do not believe it appropriate to place a function of this type in the Office of the Governor. This is a comprehensive and detailed undertaking that needs to remain within a principal department of state government (i.e, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS)). Further, DAGS, through its Information and Communication Services Division (ICSD), has been making significant progress on improving the State's IT governance, structure and services.

This bill, as written, also runs afoul of Article V, Section 6 of the Hawaii State Constitution, which provides in part:

All executive and administrative offices, departments and instrumentalities of the state government and their respective powers and duties shall be allocated by law among and within not more than twenty principal departments in such a manner as to group the same according to common purposes and related functions. Temporary commissions or agencies for special purposes may be established by law and need not be allocated within a principal department.

The Attorney General has opined that, Article V, Section 6 of the Hawaii Constitution and HRS Section 26-4, HRS, require a state office or instrumentality, unless it is for temporary and special purposes, to be placed within a principal department of the state

executive branch. Accordingly, by establishing the "information technology steering committee" within the Office of the Governor, the bill runs afoul of the above-stated constitutional provision.

Finally, transferring the responsibility of developing and managing statewide computer technology networks to the Office of the Governor will impose additional costs to implement and maintain. In view of the financial difficulties now facing the State of Hawaii, it is not an appropriate time to add functions and responsibilities that can be better undertaken in a department that is already staffed to handle such a role. We must avoid the additional expenses associated with the transfer of these functions.

We respectfully request that S.B. 2548, S.D.1, be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Written Statement of
YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Wednesday, February 24, 2010
10:05 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SB 2548 SD1 RELATING TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

Chair Mercado Kim, Vice Chair Tsutsui, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) supports the intent of SB 2548 SD1, which implements the information technology (IT) recommendations of Auditor's Report No. 09-06 and establishes within the Office of the Governor, a Chief Information Officer and Information Technology Steering Committee to organize, manage and oversee statewide information technology governance.

With tax revenues down, reduced public workforce and a significant number of recent or near-future retirees, the State is faced with a difficult challenge in having to provide for public services with more demand than ever, and to do so with reduced resources. When the private sector faces this type of a challenge, it looks to IT solutions. Having worked in the IT industry in the private sector, and now working in state government, I can confidently say that review of the State's procedures in the context of how IT can provide better results cheaper and faster, should be, and should have been one of the top internal priorities for state government.

I respectfully offer a few thoughts as the bill makes its way through the legislative process:

1. HTDC recommends a language change in Section 2, to amend Chapter 27 (a)(3), from "Develop and implement statewide technology standards" to "Development and implement statewide technology standards where appropriate".

The recommendation is made to mirror successful practices of the University of Hawaii (UH) where its IT services provide certain services to a certain level, and recommends specific solutions for which documentation and support are made available. However, should a department or a program choose to use another solution, it can, but is on its own for support. This model is successful because it recognizes the wide variety of needs various UH programs have, and that restricting them to work within certain technology standards would only result in