



<u>Late</u>

Written Statement of YUKA NAGASHIMA Executive Director & CEO High Technology Development Corporation before the HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 312 In consideration of

HB 1463 RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY.

Chair Tsuji, Vice Chair Ward, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Business.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) would like to submit testimony in **support** of HB1463 with a few recommendations for amendments.

We appreciate the support of this legislature on this issue, as recruiting and retaining the talent required for start-up technology companies in Hawaii remain one of HTDC's focus initiatives. By statute, HTDC has the authority it needs to fulfill this mission. Therefore, we recommend Section 2 of this bill to be stricken.

HTDC defers to the Hawaii Strategic Development Corporation on the merits of having a loan program via our revolving fund for the above purpose.

HTDC leverages program funds to actively host, sponsor, and organize tech/entrepreneurial conferences, networking events, and activities – creating an environment which organically attracts the visiting tech entrepreneur. HTDC can scale these efforts with proper funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.