



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND
TECHNOLOGY
AND
LABOR**

Wednesday, March 21, 2018
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
HB 1962, HD1
RELATING TO MANUFACTURING.

Chairs Wakai and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and English, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** the intent of HB 1962, HD1, which requires DBEDT to conduct an economic development study on automated manufacturing opportunities in Hawaii. DBEDT agrees that Hawaii manufacturers will increasingly need to turn to advanced manufacturing and industrial automation to remain competitive. Although automated manufacturing may reduce the overall number of workers required to produce a product, it also provides local manufacturers with the ability to compete with offshore production.

DBEDT appreciates that this measure will ultimately support the growth of Hawaii-made products by studying the opportunities and challenges of automated manufacturing in the state and making preliminary findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation for the convening of the regular legislative session of 2019. To complete this study DBEDT requests an appropriation of \$150,000.

DBEDT supports the bill as long as it does not either replace or adversely impact the Administration's priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

HB-1962-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2018 12:41:38 PM

Testimony for ETT on 3/21/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

To the Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair; the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Technology:

To the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair; the Honorable J. Kalani English, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor:

Good afternoon. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HB1962 HD1**, relating to DBEDT; Automated Manufacturing; Study; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HB1962 HD1** and support its passage.

HB1962 HD1, is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct an economic development study on automated manufacturing opportunities in Hawaii, and makes an appropriation for the study.

Specifically, the DPH Platform provides: "We recognize that the responsible use and development of technology in all its manifestations offers immense potential for our community, government, including institutions of higher education and business sectors. We encourage synergistic research, development, commercialization and educational programs to promote technological proficiency and innovation. In particular, we support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives in our public, private and charter schools as these prepare the next generation to address the needs of our State. We also support programs that facilitate incubator, i.e. start-up, opportunities for new and promising technologies, and encourage the local retention of our intellectual resources. (Platform of the DPH, P. 3, Lines 149-156 (2016)).

Given that **HB1962 HD1** requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct an economic development study on automated manufacturing opportunities in Hawaii, and makes an appropriation for the study, it is

the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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