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Enlightened Energy
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Chamber of
Sustainable
Commerce
P.O. Box 22394
Honolulu, HI
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Sen. Lynn Decoite, Chair
Sen. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Comm. on Energy, Economic Dev. & Tourism

Thursday, February 1, 2024
1:00 pm
Via Videoconferencing

RE: **SB2113** Hawaii Technology Development Corporation - **Support**

Dear Chair Decoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee,

The Chamber of Sustainable Commerce represents over 100 small businesses across the State of Hawaii that strive for a triple bottom line: people, planet and prosperity; we know we can strengthen our economy without hurting workers, consumers, communities or the environment.

This is why we support SB2113, which appropriates moneys to the Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) for its manufacturing assistance programs.

The Hawaii small business innovation research program, manufacturing assistance grant program, and excelerator grant program offered by HTDC help fund and support the State's manufacturing businesses. Most of the start-ups impacted by this funding are designed to achieve success within a more sustainable economy for Hawaii – leaving extractive capitalism in our past.

Collective investment in businesses that help other businesses thrive, so they can compensate workers with a living wage, keep communities healthy and safe from toxins, and restore our natural resources for future generations - these investments will have exponential returns beyond just increased tax revenue for the state.