



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

July 11, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

Re: House Bill No. 1630 HD2 SD2 CD1

On July 10, 2007, House Bill No. 1630, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Technology Workforce Development" became law without my signature, pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

This bill appropriates \$1.1 million to be expended by the Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii for the project EAST program. EAST stands for environmental and spatial technology.

This bill poses possible constitutional concerns in that it sets up a spending mechanism without parameters and outside of the State Treasury. Article VII Section 4 of the Hawaii Constitution requires public funds to be spent pursuant to standards provided by law. Based on a review by the Attorney General, we find there are no standards specified in this bill or prior law for the Hawaii 3Ts school technology laboratories fund. There is another provision of existing law that says expenditures shall be approved by the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism director. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism would, therefore, assume the burden of ensuring these funds are spent in accordance with statutorily required standards. An unclear line of accountability for public funds is not in the public's best interests.

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
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For the foregoing reasons, I allowed House Bill No. 1630 to become law as Act 271 effective July 10, 2007 without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Lingle", written in a cursive style.

LINDA LINGLE