Governor Ige recently approved the rules for the Chamber’s Manufacturing Assistance Program, which is now live and open to applicants. The grant program is administered by the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC).

The Manufacturing Assistance Program is available for qualifying companies applying for reimbursement on equipment purchase, training, energy efficiency and manufacturing feasibility studies. Grants provide a 20 percent reimbursement up to $100,000. The Chamber pushed for this program during the last legislative session and is pushing for an extension this session.

It is recommended that applicants start early and gather all of the necessary documents and information now for application submissions. A complete list of required documents/company information, as well as access to the online application can be found at HTDC.org. Questions can be directed to mfggrant@htdc.org.

Upcoming manufacturing initiatives include a tour of FujiFilm North America Corp on March 18, during which participants can learn about the interesting history of FujiFilm in Hawaii and network with other local manufacturers.

Governor Ige issues Manufacturers Day proclamation with Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, HTDC and other officials in attendance.

An Energy Efficiency Workshop on Kauai will be held March 24 at Courtyard Marriott where attendees will learn about the different programs and resources that are available to help lower energy costs.

Lastly, is Manufacturing Awareness Day at the State Capitol on March 30 from 11am-1pm where information will be shared about the many varied companies that are manufacturing in Hawaii.