

HB 994

April 3, 2009

Hawaii State legislature
State Capital
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ISLAND OF OAHU

Support Testimony on
H.B. NO. 994

RELATING TO: Spaceport License for Tourism

SENATE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair

Friday, April 3, 2009, 9:45 1.m., Conference Room 211

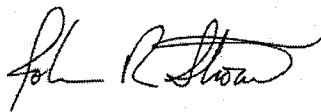
Enterprise Honolulu, the Oahu Economic Development Board, **supports H.B. 994**, appropriating funds for a spaceport license from the Federal Aviation Administration to establish space tourism in Hawaii. This will accelerate the office of aerospace development to aid and guide the state and the legislature in the development of a robust aerospace industry in Hawaii with a significant tourism component.

The purpose of this act is well spelled out in the legislation and brings together the public and private sectors to grow and advance aerospace activities in the state, including the newest area, space tourism. We already have a growing aerospace community working in and around Hawaii, this spaceport license would be instrumental in directing efforts to expand and enhance the role of both national aerospace activities in Hawaii through space tourism and aid in growing local companies and ultimately local jobs in a challenging high paying industry that can continue growth in the future.

We believe this bill will greatly assist in efforts to grow the aerospace industry here in Hawaii, creating new high paying jobs, diversifying our economy and providing new exciting challenges for Hawaii's youth.

Enterprise Honolulu, the Oahu Economic Development Board, supports **HB 994**.

Sincerely,



John Strom

VP Director of Business Development & Technology



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