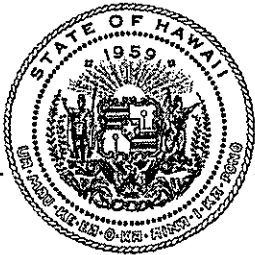


HB 2872, HD3

RELATING TO AEROSPACE HIGH TECHNOLOGY DISTRICT

Description:

Authorizes aerospace high technology parks as a permitted use within an agricultural district on land with soil classified as overall (master) productivity rating class C, D, or E. Requires the parks to obtain a special permit. Effective July 1, 2012. (HB2872 HD3)



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
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Statement of

RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
AND
WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING**

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

3:15 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of

HB 2872 HD3

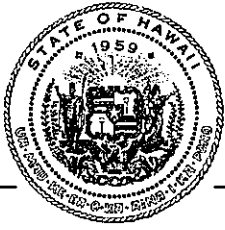
RELATING TO AEROSPACE HIGH TECHNOLOGY DISTRICTS.

Chairs Espero, Fukunaga and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani, Wakai and Solomon, and members of the Committees.

The department **supports the intent** of HB 2872, HD3 to facilitate the development of aerospace high technology parks in Hawaii in the State Agricultural District on lower quality soils rated C, D, and E.

The Office of Planning, after consultation with the Department of the Attorney General, has proposed technical amendments to the bill that would better accomplish the intent of the bill. We recommend the changes proposed by the Office of Planning.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS**
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Tuesday, March 20, 2012
3:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of
HB 2872, HD 3
RELATING TO AEROSPACE HIGH TECHNOLOGY DISTRICTS.

Chairs Espero, Fukunaga, and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Kidani, Wakai, and Solomon, and Members of the Senate Committees on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs, Economic Development and Technology, and Water, Land, and Housing.

The Office of Planning supports HB 2872 HD 3 to facilitate the development of aerospace high technology facilities in the State of Hawaii. As currently drafted, however, there are technical issues with the bill which we are recommending to be remedied as follows:

1. The proposed addition of aerospace high technology parks in agricultural districts on C, D, or E rated lands should be accomplished by amending section 205-2(d) rather than 205-4.5(a) as currently drafted, since the latter pertains only to A and B lands.

2. Referencing the need for a special permit in either section 205-2 or 205-4.5 is incongruous with these sections which describe permissible uses in the agricultural district. The requirement for a special permit should more appropriately be specified through an amendment of section 205-6.

We have consulted with the Department of the Attorney General to assist us in describing the needed technical amendments to the bill in accordance with the foregoing.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government
Operations, Military Affairs,
Committee on Economic Development and Technology, and
Committee on Water, Land, and Ocean Resources**

Tuesday, March 20, 2012

3:15 PM

Conference Room 224

**RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 2872, HD 3, RELATING TO AEROSPACE HIGH
TECHNOLOGY DISTRICTS**

**Chairs Espero, Fukunaga, and Dela Cruz; Vice Chairs Kidani, Wakai, and
Solomon; and members of the committees.**

My name is Charles Ota and I am the Vice President for Military Affairs at The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (The Chamber). I am here to state The Chamber's support of House Bill No. 2872, HD 3, Relating to Aerospace High Technology Districts.

The measure proposes to authorize aerospace high technology parks as a permitted use within an agricultural district on land whose soil is classified with the overall (master) productivity rating class C, D, or E, and requires parks to obtain a special permit.

The Chamber's Military Affairs Council (MAC) serves as the liaison for the state in matters relating to the U.S. military and provides oversight for the State's multi-billion dollar defense industry.

The US military's eminent presence in Hawaii would help greatly in developing a high technology aerospace industry. The military would serve as a strong partner in developing an aerospace industry that would offer great potential for sustainable long-term economic growth, helping to drive investment

to Hawaii and create job opportunities for Hawaii's talented generation of young scientists, engineers, and researchers.

The University of Hawaii at Hilo with its Imiloa Campus and the proximity of Hawaii Island within our island chain would appear to favor Hawaii Island in serving as the focus of such an effort.

We support the proposal to permit the use of use of lower productivity agricultural lands to develop aerospace high technology parks.

We believe it critically important to take full advantage of Hawaii's available resources and diversify the economy through aerospace high technology.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.