

LATE TESTIMONY

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011

Joint Committee on Tourism,
Economic Development and Technology,
Public Safety, Government Operations & Military Affairs

Thursday, February 10, 2011
2:45 p.m.

S.B. No. 112

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

By
Russell Honma

Good afternoon Senators:

I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify today on important issue for our Future for the State of Hawaii and its citizens. I would like to introduce myself as, Russell Honma, retired from the State Department of Transportation, as Statewide Planner and currently a International Transportation and Business, Consultant for the Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project, so called the Honolulu Rapid Transit Project and Airship Business Venture Development (Air Blimp) Project.

As you know, twenty years ago, in the 1990's there was a Space Port Development project located on Big Island, near Punaluu, Hawaii County. Where, the State DBEBT had a proposal (Request For Proposal) to obtain private Sector to construct and develop a Space Port in Big Island, Hawaii County, near Punaluu. Nissho Iwai Corporation formed a consortium partnership joint venture with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Nissan Motors and Ishikawa Harumi Corporation to develop a Space Port to launch satellite for the third world countries. Similar to the French Airiane's European Unions Space Program.

Unfortunately this effort failed because of the opposition group with the Hawaiian Trail issues and not completing the "Environmental Impact Studies"(EIS) and Environmental Assessment" (EA) report. At that same time was another State project was being scrutinized, the Geo Thermo Project in Puna District, concerning not having a vital EIS. It is very vital for the State, DBEBT and Space Program Division conduct a EIS or EA, so the State of Hawaii can submit a "Spaceport License" to the Federal Aviation Administration for its approval.

In order to make the Spaceport and Space Tourism a reality, the S.B. No 112 must pass this Session with appropriations, the State of Hawaii must invest in the Future with infrastructure and lay out the foundation (blue print) so that the Private Sector can invest in the Spaceport and Space Tourism.

Whereas, today after 20 years later from 1990's, companies such as Mitsubishi, Nissan, Ishikawa-Harumi has already invested in the Space Program partnership with NASA and its affiliates. They have already have developed a Space Shuttle, under the license of NASA and is ready to launch for space travel.

The State of Hawaii must invest in the Spaceport and Space Tourism so that the private sector such as Mitsubishi and other corporations' can invest in the Future for Hawaii and use the Spaceport. We need to create a complete environment so that price of the ticket also can come down. The consortium team of Mitsubishi, Nissan and Ishikawa Harumi can launch there Space Shuttle at the Spaceport and be a pioneer in Hawaii.

Whereas, cutting the travel time for example normal airline flight to London, England, Paris, France other European destination from Hawaii will take about 15 hours. However, the space travel flying into space and orbit down to your destination will take about 45 minutes to travel. The way you are cutting the travel time, can you imagine traveling to Europe in 45 minutes and have your breakfast meeting you in the morning, lunch and shopping in the afternoon and returning to Hawaii for dinner.

Under licensed NASA has already given approval to many private sector companies worldwide to develop Space Shuttle program. Since NASA will be phasing out there Space Shuttle program. So that the Private Sector can invest and develop the Space Shuttle and its Space Tourism program. NASA will be focusing its effort to the Moon and Mars mission.

For those reasons passing this S.B No 112 is very vital for your economy and to the future for your generations to come. We need to invest in your future and its Space Program can groom our future astronauts and space aviators. Therefore, I support the S.B. No. 112 for approval with funding appropriations to the State DBEET, Space Program so that they can obtain approval from the Federal Aviation Administration and conduct its needs on the EIS and EA measures.

We Need To Act Now! If you need more information or have any questions please contact me at: P.O. Box 1201, Honolulu, Hawaii 96807 or call (808) 265-5261.

Very truly yours,



Russell Honma

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony in Support of SB 112, SB 165, SB 1496

Date: 10 February 2011

Submitted by: Joseph E. Ciotti, PhD
Director, Center for Aerospace Education
Hawai'i Teacher-in-Space/NASA Ambassador
Windward Community College

Dear Members of the Twenty-Sixth Legislature:

I am pleased to provide testimony in strong support of SB 112, SB 165 and SB 1496—all three of which address the strategic and timely growth of aerospace industry in the State of Hawai'i.

I've been intimately involved with space education in Hawai'i for over 40 years and can personally testify to the significant impact that past and recent commitments to this endeavor have had on our youth and the welfare of our State. I've witnessed this through my decades of teaching astronomy and space science at both the secondary and college level, through my extensive K-12 and community outreach efforts at Windward Community College's Center for Aerospace Education which has reached over 300,000 people, through the rocketry projects my Hawai'i Space Grant students continue to undertake, and through over forty years of experience I enjoyed at all three planetariums in Hawai'i—including designing and constructing two of them.

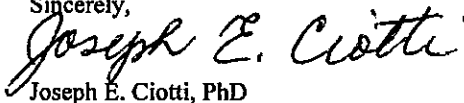
Following in the wake of its rich seafaring heritage, Hawai'i has already undertaken bold spacefaring ventures. From world-class astronomical observatories ... to NASA-sponsored *in situ* rehearsals of manned and robotic space missions ... to its role in international airline transportation and potential future space tourism, Hawai'i is uniquely poised for significant economic growth through the leadership choices it makes regarding the aerospace industry.

Hawai'i is currently perched to assume a prominent role in aerospace research and technology. The decisions made today by the Twenty-Sixth Legislature will determine the flight path our State will follow in a field that has potential for major positive impact on its economy. By committing to the development of a spaceplane launch/landing facilities in Hawai'i (SB 112), operation of space exploration and lunar research related activities as eligible local business (SR 1496), and support for the Office of Aerospace Development to carry out this bold and far-reaching vision (SR165), Hawai'i will have laid its claim as the crossroads along this major space highway.

By recognizing aerospace as a strategic industry in Hawai'i, passage of these Senate Bills will provide the urgently needed support and boost to DBEDT's Office of Aerospace Development in fulfilling its responsibility to oversee the economic growth of this fast-paced and strategically important industry in Hawai'i.

I strongly support SB 112, SB 165 and SB 1496.

Sincerely,



Joseph E. Ciotti, PhD

Professor, Physics, Astronomy & Mathematics
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