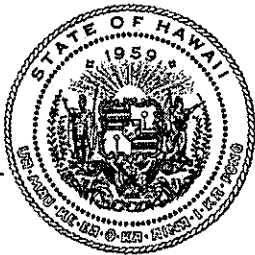


SB 3037

RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR EXPLORATION SYSTEMS.

Description:

Transfers the Pacific international space center for exploration systems from the University of Hawaii to DBEDT's office of aerospace development.
Establishes a PISCES board of directors.



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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of

RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
EDUCATION
and
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**

Tuesday, February 14, 2012
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224
in consideration of

SB 3037

**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER
FOR EXPLORATION SYSTEMS.**

Chairs Espero, Tokuda and Fukunaga, Vice Chairs Kidani and Wakai, and members of the Committees. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism supports the intent of this bill, especially as it addresses initiatives supportive of our goals and objectives, but we also are concerned about the potential cost implications generated by this legislation.

We recognize the substantial contributions PISCES has made to date, including its role in supporting aerospace research, education, and the development, testing and evaluation of innovative technologies to support the exploration of space.

DBEDT will work with the University of Hawaii and interested parties to discuss the issues raised from this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BARBARA A. KRIEG
INTERIM DIRECTOR

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

February 7, 2012

TESTIMONY TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES
ON

PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
EDUCATION
AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

For Hearing on Tuesday, February 14, 2012
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 224

BY

BARBARA A. KRIEG
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Senate Bill No. 3037
Relating to the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

TO CHAIRPERSONS ESPERO, TOKUDA, AND FUKUNAGA AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEES:

The purpose of S.B. No. 3037 is to transfer the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems ("PISCES") from the University of Hawaii to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism's Office of Aerospace Development. The bill establishes a PISCES Board of Directors and appropriates funds.

The Department of Human Resources Development has **comments** on the proposed transfer. To protect the rights and benefits of the employees to be transferred, we prefer the following proposed transfer language be used in place of the

transfer language pertaining to employees in Section 6 of the bill:

“All employees who occupy civil service positions and whose functions are transferred to the department of business, economic development and tourism by this act shall retain their civil service status (permanent or temporary). Employees shall be transferred without loss of salary, seniority, retention points, prior service credit, any vacation and sick leave credits previously earned, and other rights, benefits, and privileges, in accordance with state personnel laws and this Act, provided that the employees possess the minimum qualifications and public employment requirements for the class and/or position to which transferred or appointed, as applicable, provided further that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and compensation laws.

Any employee who, prior to this Act, is exempt from civil service and is transferred as a consequence of this Act, may continue to retain the employee’s exempt status, but shall not be appointed to a civil service position because of this Act. An exempt employee who is transferred by this Act shall not suffer any loss of prior service credit, any vacation and sick leave credits previously earned, or other employee benefits or privileges as a consequence of this Act, provided that the employees possess legal and public employment requirements for the position to which transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to applicable employment and compensation

laws. The director of the department of business, economic development and tourism may prescribe the duties and qualifications of such employees and fix their salaries without regard to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes.”

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this measure.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs,
Senate Committee on Education
and the

Senate Committee on Economic Development and Technology
February 14, 2012 at 2:45 p.m.

by
Donald O. Straney, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

SB 3037 RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS

Chairs Espero, Tokuda and Fukunaga, Vice Chairs Kidani and Wakai and Members of the
Committees,

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i Hilo. I am testifying in support of the intent of SB 3037 relating to the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES), although I have concerns about specific features of the bill as it is currently written.

Hawai'i is unique within the United States in providing the opportunities to develop and test equipment and techniques we will need in the exploration of space. We have locations on our islands with characteristics similar to those found on the moon and other planets, providing conditions otherwise available only in artificial laboratory settings. We have extreme environments, mimicking the conditions in space, within easy reach of well-supported laboratories and technical facilities. We also have the experience, gained over several generations, of research at the cutting edge of geology, space technology, engineering and human performance.

Hawai'i has every reason to believe it can help lead the development and testing of the technology needed for the next phase of our nation's exploration of space. Companies are beginning to develop the new technology that will be required and, under PISCES, have begun testing their prototypes in the state. As has happened several times in our nation's history, these companies are most likely to expand and locate in our state to take advantage of the economies of scale and ease of access to testing locations. I believe it is likely that we will be able to take advantage of this promising area of growth to stimulate new commercial opportunities and new career opportunities in the state.

To date, PISCES has been a largely volunteer effort by people in academia, government and industry. It has been supported by funds from grants, from personnel efforts from within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and Office of Aerospace Development and from non-general funds made available by the University of Hawai'i Hilo. Despite limited means, it has supported industry-based research and educational outreach on the island of Hawai'i.

PISCES is constrained by not having an articulated plan for expanding its efforts from a largely informal arrangement to one that can become a significant stimulus for our economy. Without such a plan, it is not able to assemble the infrastructure or dedicated industry partners needed to fulfill its promise. I believe having a development plan, with industry, academic and government support is a prerequisite to deciding how PISCES might grow and what forms of support and organization it needs to flourish.

I would like to suggest that the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, the University of Hawai'i Hilo, and the Research Corporation of the University of Hawai'i be charged with developing a joint plan for the future of PISCES and submitting it to you by January, 2013. From the campus's perspective, such a plan is needed to understand how we can support the development of part of our existing Science and Technology Park or our industry incubator to support space industries. We also need to understand what key industry partners will expect in the form of infrastructure and workforce for them to be successful. And we need to include other areas of excellence within the University (e. g. engineering, robotics, space and planetary exploration) in the planning efforts.

With a development plan, government, the university and industry will have a better sense of the direction we need to take with PISCES. I suggest it is premature to make decisions about how PISCES should be integrated into the state economic development structure or about how its governance and management should be designed.

PISCES has considerable promise to stimulate growth in an important new aspect of our state economy. While I believe there is planning needed before we can realize that potential, I am firmly convinced that the industry partners PISCES will have will create important new careers. The University of Hawai'i will be an important component in PISCES' success.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to testify on SB 3037.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 2:53 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: tane_1@msn.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3037 on 2/14/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/EDU/EDT 2/14/2012 2:45:00 PM SB3037

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: David MK Inciong, II
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tane_1@msn.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments:

I am better known as Tane and I am opposed to this bill which transfers the Pacific international space center for exploration systems from the University of Hawaii to DBEDT's office of aerospace development. I feel it is disingenuous to flippantly make such a calculated move for the sake of greedy elitists' money-making grab to take control of our sacred mountains and disregard our Hawaiian culture and practices that they have already demonstrated.

Rampant disrespect for Hawaii's culture, na iwi kupuna, and endangered species (fauna and flora) will be at greater risk in this sideshow the DBEDT actions will present for pecuniary purposes to enrich themselves with private enterprises. This will open Pandora's Box and create public discord rather than finding amicable resolution. Prostitution for making money at the expense of the Hawaiian culture and heritage is not an option by selling it to the highest bidder.

Monitoring the conduct of University of Hawaii is more conducive than the callous conduct of DBEDT and its more likely nefarious backroom deals. I would be more confident with academia control than with captitalistic perversion.

Mahalo,

Tane

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 1:14 PM
To: PGM Testimony
Cc: Kealii8@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB3037 on 2/14/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for PGM/EDU/EDT 2/14/2012 2:45:00 PM SB3037

Conference room: 224
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kealii Makekau
Organization: Individual
E-mail: Kealii8@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments: