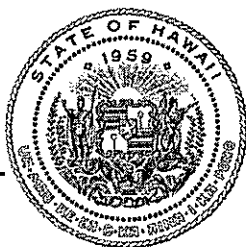


# SCR137 / SR73

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT TO COORDINATE  
COMMENTS AND IDENTIFY A LEAD ENTITY TO PREPARE  
A PROPOSAL, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE, FOR HAWAII  
TO BE SELECTED AS ONE OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION  
ADMINISTRATION'S SIX UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM  
TEST SITES.



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

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Statement of

**RICHARD C. LIM**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism  
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

2:45 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

in consideration of

**SR73/SCR137**

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT TO COORDINATE COMMENTS AND IDENTIFY A LEAD ENTITY TO PREPARE A PROPOSAL, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE, FOR HAWAII TO BE SELECTED AS ONE OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION'S SIX UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM TEST SITES.

Chair Espero, Vice Chairs Kidani, and members of the Committee. The department supports the intent of SR73 and SCR137, which request our department's Office of Aerospace Development to facilitate Hawaii's bid for selection as one of six national test sites for unmanned aerial systems (UAS).

Hawaii, by virtue of its strategic mid-Pacific location, abundant over-water airspace, established instrumented and DoD-managed range infrastructure and associated test expertise, and closely coordinated military and civilian aviation communities, provides an ideal location for evaluating and integrating unmanned aircraft with the national airspace system. Selection of Hawaii as a national UAS test site could bring new high paying jobs and extramural revenue streams to the state, as well as help establish Hawaii as a nationally recognized center of excellence for the development and testing of advanced aviation technologies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



March 27, 2012

Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair  
Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 224  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Espero and Vice Chair Kidani!

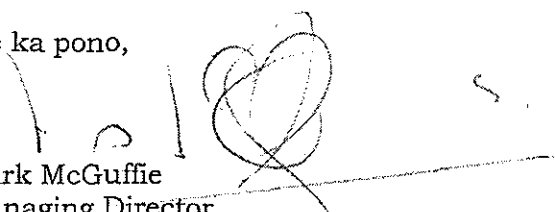
As a committee member of the Hawai'i Aerospace Advisory Committee and Managing Director of Enterprise Honolulu - the O'ahu Economic Development Board, I am writing to express my support for both Senate Concurrent Resolution 137 and Senate Resolution 73.

For the State of Hawai'i, to be selected as one of the national unmanned aircraft system test sites, will further position Hawai'i in the forefront of nationally acclaimed aerospace initiatives, bringing additional positive economic benefits to our State.

I ask for your consideration to support SCR137 and SR73, empowering the Director of the Office of Aerospace Development to coordinate this effort, preparing and submitting a proposal on behalf of the State of Hawai'i to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Me ka pono,



Mark McGuffie  
Managing Director  
Enterprise Honolulu, O'ahu Economic Development Board



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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government  
Operations, and Military Affairs  
Tuesday, March 27, 2012  
2:45 PM  
Conference Room 224**

**RE: SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 137 / SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 73, REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT TO COORDINATE COMMENTS AND IDENTIFY A LEAD ENTITY TO PREPARE A PROPOSAL, ON BEHALF OF THE STATE, FOR HAWAII TO BE SELECTED AS ONE OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION'S SIX UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM TEST SITES.**

**Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee.**

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 Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 137 and Senate Resolution No. 73, Requesting the office of Aerospace Development to coordinate comments and identify a lead entity to prepare a proposal, on behalf of the state, for Hawaii to be selected as one of the Federal Aviation Administration's six unmanned aircraft systems test sites.

The measure proposes to require the state to compete for the selection of six unmanned aerial systems test sites with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). This is breakthrough legislation that is intended to regulate the airways to enable the commercialization and use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) for private and public sector use.

The Chamber's Military Affairs Council (MAC) has served as the liaison for the state in matters relating to the U.S. military since 1985, and provides oversight for the State's multi-billion dollar defense industry.

Several of Hawaii's Research and Development businesses have been engaged in UAV research and development over the years and are now in position to successfully compete in commercializing UAVs for private and public sector use. Moreover, Hawaii has the resources within its island chain that have served as R&D test sites for the military and could be expanded for use as UAV test sites.

In light of the above, the MAC and the Chamber strongly recommend that this measure be passed and expedited to meet deadlines established by the FAA in its nationwide search for suitable test sites.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important measure.