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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR226 AND HR180 - EXPRESSING SUPPORT
FOR FEDERAL FUNDING TO FINANCE A COMPREHENSIVE FEASIBILITY
STUDY TO EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL FOR ESTABLISHING A WORLD-
CLASS COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH AND CONTROL FACILITY IN THE
STATE OF HAWAII.**

Dear Members of the 27th State Legislature,

I strongly support the intent of this resolution to encourage federal funding to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of establishing a commercial space launch and control facility in Hawaii.

Hawaii's strategic mid-Pacific/near-equatorial location, resident expertise in multiple aerospace-related technologies, and long-standing ties with space-faring nations throughout Asia and the Pacific, clearly afford strategic assets and capabilities that can be leveraged to realize humankind's full potential in space, and in so doing enable our State to engage as both a major contributor to and beneficiary of the global space enterprise.

In particular, these factors collectively make Hawaii an ideal location to support commercial space launch operations to both equatorial and polar orbits, and to do so in a manner that will enable safer and more cost-effective launch operations in comparison with other launch sites on the U.S. Mainland.

The proposed federally funded feasibility study will evaluate both the economic viability and long-term benefits of establishing a commercial space launch and control facility in Hawaii. Even more importantly, this analysis will assess the ability to conduct commercial launch operations in ways that are both sensitive and responsive to our State's priorities for local economic development and technology-based education, as well as local cultural and environmental concerns.

As such, I would urge you pass HCR123, and would be happy to address any questions you may have concerning this recommendation. I can be reached by e-mail at kyahiku@wik.com , by phone at (808) 544-6765 or by fax at (808) 544-8398.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Aloha,



George R. Ariyoshi

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