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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution No.  
2   156, S.D. 1, adopted during the regular session of 2012, the  
3   legislature urged the creation of an exploratory committee to  
4   consider the establishment of an international flight training  
5   center and associated aeronautical training programs at Hawaii  
6   community college and the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Tasked  
7   with submitting a report to the legislature, the exploratory  
8   committee recommended the establishment of three programs and  
9   that the legislature appropriate funds to hire a program  
10   coordinator and a technical support staff member, contracted  
11   through the University of Hawaii, who will conduct and draft the  
12   necessary planning and studies required for the proposed  
13   programs. The proposed professional helicopter pilot program  
14   and the proposed professional unmanned aircraft systems pilot  
15   program are to be administered through Hawaii community college.  
16   The proposed professional airplane pilot program is to be  
17   administered by the University of Hawaii at Hilo.



1           The program coordinator and technical support staff member  
2 will work in conjunction with the chancellors of Hawaii  
3 community college and the University of Hawaii at Hilo, the  
4 exploratory committee, and the Hilo community to complete the  
5 necessary studies and planning for the programs' future  
6 implementation.

7           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the  
8 program coordinator and technical support staff member, as  
9 recommended by the exploratory committee.

10           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and  
13 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
14 year 2014-2015 for a program coordinator and a technical support  
15 staff member to complete the necessary planning and studies  
16 required for an international flight training center and  
17 associated proposed aeronautical training programs at Hawaii  
18 community college and the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

19           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
20 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

21           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Appropriation; International Flight Training Center;  
Aeronautical Training Programs; University of Hawaii

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii to hire a program coordinator and a technical support staff member for the proposed international flight training center and associated degree programs at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and Hawaii community college. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*



**William P. Kenoi**  
*Mayor*



**Walter K.M. Lau**  
*Managing Director*

**Randall M. Kurohara**  
*Deputy Managing Director*

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy., Bldg. C • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 323-4444 • Fax (808) 323-4440

March 12, 2013

The Honorable Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on  
Higher Education  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair  
And Members of the House Committee on  
Economic Development and Business  
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 309  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Senate Bill 1221 SD2, RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Aloha, Chair Choy, Chair Tsuji and Committee Members:

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support for Senate Bill 1221 SD2, which as originally drafted would appropriate funds for a program coordinator and technical staff to complete the planning for an international flight training center at the Hilo International Airport.

Today hundreds of Hawai'i students leave the state to attend flight programs on the Mainland because the required academic and practical flight training is unavailable in Hawai'i. This represents a loss of talented young people from our state as well as the loss of millions of dollars in direct expenditures that could be contributing to Hawai'i's economy.

Hilo offers an excellent environment for a world-class international aviation training center, including features such as underutilized land at Hilo airport, low air traffic activity and excellent instrument training opportunities at the airport. Hawai'i Community College and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo are conveniently located near the airport, and Hilo offers an affordable and welcoming environment for students from the Asia-Pacific region who will be attracted to the aviation program.

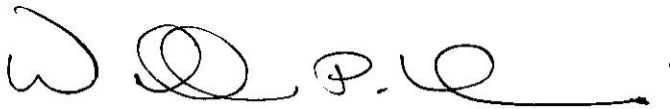
The Honorable Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair  
Page 2  
March 12, 2013

The Hawai'i Aviation Exploratory Committee that studied the concept of an aviation center pointed out that adding aeronautical training programs at UHH and Hawai'i Community College will open the way to important future advances in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) program on both campuses. These programs will help create high technology, high-wage jobs for our young people in areas such as avionics and electronics, flight dispatch, air traffic control, flight operations management, maintenance management and other fields.

We believe the international flight training center and aeronautical training program will be an important addition to Hawai'i's educational offerings, and we ask for your support.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. P. Kenoi', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

William P. Kenoi  
MAYOR



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

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](http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt)

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR

**RICHARD C. LIM**  
DIRECTOR

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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

Statement of  
**RICHARD C. LIM**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

Tuesday, March 12, 2013  
2:10 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of  
**SB 1221, SD2**  
**RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism supports the intent of SB 1221, SD2 to hire appropriate staff to support an international flight training center and associated degree programs at the University of Hawaii at Hilo and Hawaii Community College.

DBEDT recognizes that the rapidly growing demand for pilots and maintenance workers in the aviation industry cannot be met with the existing training capacity nationwide; and that Hilo, by virtue of its unique meteorological conditions, underutilized land at Hilo International Airport, low air traffic activity, state-of-the-art air controller and radar facilities, and excellent training resources at both UHH and HCC, is ideally located to support the proposed flight training center.

Furthermore, the department concurs that this program can significantly promote the diversification of the State's economy and local aviation industry, catalyze student interest in and pursuit of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines, and expand Hawaii's reputation as a world-class aviation training center serving the Pacific Rim and beyond.

As such, we support this bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this legislation.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



Testimony of  
GLENN M. OKIMOTO  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
JADE BUTAY  
RANDY GRUNE  
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 12, 2013  
2:10 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 309

**S.B. 1221, S.D. 2**  
**RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION**

House Committee(s) on Higher Education & Economic Development and Business

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill, which furthers the recommendations of the exploratory committee in establishing an international flight training center in Hilo.

The Department of Transportation is a strong proponent of aviation in Hawaii, and recognizes the synergies that a program offering degrees in aviation would bring to the Hilo community and to the State. Projections indicate a large demand for pilots and maintenance workers that cannot be met with the existing training capacity nationwide. Such a program will position Hawaii and its youth as a source for this burgeoning demand. The local aviation industry and the Hawaii economy will benefit from being able to readily supply personnel for these high paying jobs, which in turn are generated by tuition revenues, expenditures for and by faculty and support staff, and the construction and maintenance of new facilities.

The Airports Division also recognizes the suitability of Hilo International Airport for instrument training, and its capacity to accommodate additional general aviation traffic safely.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1221 SD2  
A BILL RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

PRESENTATION TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D. M. WONG  
ADJUTANT GENERAL  
March 12, 2013

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

I am Major General Darryll D. M. Wong, State Adjutant General. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 1221 SD 2.

SB 1221 SD 2 will develop a state-of-art college level aviation training program that will include aircraft, pilot training, simulation and air space integration.

This proposed aviation training program will assist the diversification of Hawaii's economy. It will provide a workforce trained for high priority science and technology careers. It will provide an aviation training center which services the Pacific Rim. The aviation program provides for a long-overdue avenue for our Hawaii youth in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) areas.

I strongly urge you to pass SB 1221 SD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.





# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Higher Education  
March 12, 2013 at 2:10 p.m.

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

SB1221 SD2 RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair Choy, Vice Chair Ichiyama and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. We support the detailed findings and recommendations of the feasibility report to the 2013 Legislature to establish an international flight training center and associated proposed aeronautical training programs at Hawai'i Community College and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

Currently, there are no programs in the State of Hawai'i that can prepare students for this high level of academic and practical training. This proposal will help address the future needs of our island economy. UH Hilo views our partnership and collaboration with Hawai'i Community College and other community college campuses as an important component in being able to successfully provide higher education and career options to the people of our Hawai'i Island.

We support SB1221 SD2 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB1221 SD2. Aloha.

The Honorable Isaac W. Choy  
Chairman, House Committee on Higher Education

March 12<sup>th</sup> 2013

RE: Steven Augugliaro  
Testimony on SB 1221 Relating to Higher Education

Dear Chairman Choy, Vice Chairwoman Ichiyama and members of the Committee on Higher Education,

First of all, thank you for considering my testimony in support of Senate Bill 1221.

I have been blessed beyond my wildest dreams to serve the state of Hawaii, and our nation by flying F-15's, and F-22's in the Hawaii Air National Guard since 2002. Before becoming a pilot, I enlisted in the Hawaii Air National Guard as an avionics technician, working on C-130 aircraft from 1995-2000. Prior to that, I attended Moanalua high school from 1991-1995. As a freshman and sophomore in high school, I thought the only way I could achieve my dreams of becoming a pilot was to join the active duty Air Force and leave Hawaii for a 20 year career, and maybe return as an airline pilot. But my junior year at Moanalua, while I was in JROTC, we took a field trip to Hickam AFB, and I got to ride on a KC-135 refueler plane from the Hawaii Air National Guard. That was the first time I learned about the Guard, and the awesome opportunity it offered, of allowing folks to serve their state and nation, right here at home!

I personally know a hand-full of pilots from Hawaii who were not as fortunate as me to be able to start or have a career in aviation here. They felt that their only serious option was to leave our state, and pursue their flying dreams in schools around the nation such as Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, University of North Dakota, and the U.S Air Force Academy. I know for a fact, if they had the opportunity to stay in Hawaii and learn to fly, while achieving a college education, they would have stayed right here at home. And this is one of many reasons why I believe so strongly in establishing such an aviation program in Hawaii.

There are so many benefits to learning to fly in Hawaii. The great, year-round weather is one of the biggest draws I can think of. If you ask any pilot if they would rather have learned to fly in North Dakota, where they're battling harsh winter weather, or Hawaii, where you can fly any month of the year in near-perfect learning conditions, I can almost guarantee which one they would pick. This would also be a big consideration for people in the mainland who are looking for an avenue to gain their pilot ratings while earning a college degree.

I believe the Aviation Exploratory Committee will be able to examine and communicate all of the detailed benefits that a collegiate aviation program would bring to Hawaii. I just wanted to share a very small perspective from someone lucky enough to live the dream and live Hawaii!

Thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony in favor of SB 1221. Mahalo.

Steven Augugliaro

**ichiyama3 - Malia**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2013 6:52 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** kalaeone\_needham@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kalae Needham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The proposed aviation program will be in Hawaii 's students and residents best interests of the state and is critical to developing a highly educated,highly skilled economy and workforce. It is with this approach that we as a state will invest in the future generations of Hawaii 's people and prepare them for the increasingly competitive global arena.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**ichiyama3 - Malia**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 09, 2013 4:09 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** jwmccully54@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James McCully	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Choy and Members of HED Committee I strongly support the development of an international flight training center and associated degree programs at the University of Hawaii Hilo and Hawaii Community College. I have previously submitted testimony and I stand on that. Mahalo, James McCully Hilo, Hawaii

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## ichiyama3 - Malia

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 09, 2013 2:07 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** vvvierra@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

### **SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor V. Vierra	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly believe passage of this measure will provide a needed avenue for the people of Hawaii interested in an aviation career to pursue same. I humbly request your consideration.

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## ichiyama3 - Malia

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 09, 2013 9:58 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** douglaswdyer@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

### **SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/9/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Douglas Dyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To whom it may concern, I fully support the creation of a school of Aviation in Hilo at the University of Hawaii. As an aviation professional in Hawaii for the past 35 years I have a unique insight into the educational requirements of the aviation community. When the aviation student chooses an institution of higher education he must opt whether that institution will be an all inclusive one stop program with both conventional classes and flying lessons included in the curriculum or a traditional University or college combined with a different private flying school. I chose the latter when I went to school back in the late '70s. This was mostly due to the cost of the full service private universities. It would have been an asset to me to stay home and go to a fine institution like the University of Hawaii, Hilo. The Big Island has all the aviation assets to provide the students an opportunity to gain all the necessary experience to be competitive in the aviation business. In summary I fully endorse SB1221. Sincerely yours, Douglas W. Dyer

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 08, 2013 8:31 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** jwill@hawaiiintel.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM\*

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/8/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**ichiyama3 - Malia**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2013 8:36 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** daymaria@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maria Kahele	Individual	Support	No

Comments: To Whom It May Concern, I strongly support SB1221 as I believe this measure will adversely affect our State and its residents in a positive way by allowing the creating of an International Aviation program in Hilo and thereby expanding educational and economic opportunities on Hawai'i Island and throughout our State of Hawai 'i. Please consider the swift passage of this bill by your committee. Respectfully, Maria Kahele Hilo Resident

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The Honorable Isaac W. Choy  
Chairman, House Committee on Higher Education

March 12th 2013

RE: Kaiali'i Kahele  
Testimony on SB1221 Relating to Higher Education

Dear Chairman Choy, Vice Chairwoman Ichiyama and Members of the Committee on Higher Education,

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony in support of Senate Bill 1221.

As a member of the aviation exploratory committee convened by Governor Abercrombie after the overwhelming passage of SCR156 last year, extensive studies have been conducted as to the viability and potential impact of a collegiate aviation program in Hawai'i.

The committee found that the proposed aviation program in Hilo, will assist in the diversification of the state's economy and provide an opportunity to gain a reputation as a world class aviation training center servicing the Pacific Rim and beyond. Aspiring high school graduate aviators that have for decades left the islands to get their required training would have the opportunity to stay in Hawai'i, building their flight skills while attaining their collegiate degree.

In addition, aviation-related education and training programs are a high priority for the state's innovation initiative. The proposed programs will be one of many vehicles that will improve the participation and performance of Hawaii's students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

As economies in the Asian Pacific Rim continue their rapid growth a potential avenue exists for the state serving as a center for educating people of these countries in the critical skills necessary to sustain their growth. One such area is in the aviation industry. Air transportation services are a pivotal aspect for supporting the growth of regional and global trade. The forecasted global pilot shortage by the year 2030 by both Boeing and Airbus, highlight the need and demand for these career fields in the near future.

Finally, the pathways that the proposed aviation program will provide to Hawaii's students and residents, is in the best interests of the state and is critical to developing a highly educated, highly skilled economy and workforce. It is with this approach that we as a state will invest in the future generations of Hawaii's people and prepare them for the increasingly competitive global arena.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony and I strongly urge the passage of SB1221 by your committee.

Kaiali'i Kahele

Chairman, Governor's Aviation Exploratory Committee

DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI  
Council Member  
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396  
FAX: (808) 961-8912  
EMAIL: [donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us](mailto:donishi@co.hawaii.hi.us)

**HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL**  
25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

March 11, 2013

The Honorable Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
and Members of the House  
Committee on Higher Education

Dear Chair Choi and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 1221 SD2.

I request that you amend this bill to reinstate the \$350,000 appropriation contained in the original version of this bill for fiscal years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

This bill would appropriate funds for a program coordinator and technical support staff member who would be charged with establishing a world-class, international flight training center and associated aeronautical training programs at Hawai'i Community College and at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

I fully support this investment in higher education as a way to support pilot training, including many from Hawai'i who would not have to leave the state to further their education. Your approval would help to boost the economy of Hawai'i, especially Hawai'i Island and ease a projected severe shortage of pilots.

Sincerely,

Dennis "Fresh" Onishi  
Hawai'i County Council  
District 3

**ichiyama3 - Malia**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2013 10:07 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** Racer230@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bo Masuyama	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I continue to support and strongly urge the passing of SB 1221.

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**ichiyama3 - Malia**

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**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2013 10:22 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** krmorris@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kenneth morris	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I am writing in support of SB1221. As a professor at UHH, we see great potential in an aviation program in Hilo to serve the State. It also offers us the opportunity to leverage expertise at UHH, Hawai'i CC and our community in keeping with the State and our strategic goals. The bill would allow us time and resources to evaluate the feasibility and cost/benefits of the program considered in the Governor's exploratory committee. I will try to attend in person as well. Mahalo Ken Morris

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**ichiyama3 - Malia**

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**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2013 11:57 AM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** wpbfour@cox.net  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

**SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William P Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wish a program like this was in existence when I was growing up in Hilo. I have since started my private pilot's training on the mainland. I feel this program would be beneficial to the City of Hilo from an economic standpoint and also beneficial to the University system from the position of offering another higher education program. The world of Aviation has such a unique and powerful impact on an individuals ability to experience other cultures within hours of boarding an international flight. Ever since I was a young child, I have always wanted to fly, it is unfortunate that I could not pursue my dream back in my home state. Please give this bill serious consideration.

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## ichiyama3 - Malia

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**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2013 1:59 PM  
**To:** HEDtestimony  
**Cc:** villarimo@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1221 on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM

### **SB1221**

Submitted on: 3/11/2013

Testimony for HED on Mar 12, 2013 14:10PM in Conference Room 309

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
James Lowe	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I continue to strongly support the development of a diversified Aviation education & training capability within the State of Hawaii, with Hilo presenting a viable location. SB1221 should be passed and funded to futher examine this opportunity.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing , improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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March 11, 2013

To: The Honorable Isaac W. Choy, Chair  
And Members of the House Committee  
on Higher Education  
Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 309

The Honorable Clift Tsuji, Chair  
And Members of the House Committee  
on Economic Development and Business  
Hawaii State Capitol Conference Room 309

Re: Senate Bill 1221  
Relating to higher education

Aloha, Chair Choy and Chair Tsuji,  
And members of the House Committee on Higher Education  
And members of the House Committee on Economic Development and Business

As a member of the business community of East Hawaii, and active participant in business and service organizations here, I am keenly aware of the importance—and developing excellence—of the programs of University of Hawaii at Hilo and Hawaii Community College.

These two institutions work hard to respond to the demands of our immediate and future course, providing education opportunities that parallel job needs.

I support SB 1221 for those reasons. Flight training of this type is clearly part of the wave of today that will broaden in the future. Let's have our young people be part of that base, and, it is hoped, leaders who bring Hawaii values to emerging technologies.

Think of it. Who do you want operating and architecting our aircraft programs of the future, especially unmanned systems? For me, I want someone who has been touched by this place, its people and values.

Thank you for the work you do for our State.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Hastings  
2316C Ainakahahele Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

The Honorable Isaac W. Choy  
Chair, House Committee on Higher Education  
State Capitol, Conference room 309  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Testimony in support of S.B. 1121

Dear Chairman Choy, Vice Chairwoman Ichiyama and Members of the Committee on Higher Education

We are in support of the establishment of an international flight training center and the aeronautical training programs to be established at the Hawaii Community College and the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

On January 26, 2013, the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Astronaut Ellison Onizuka Science Day hosted its largest attendance of students, parents and teachers (600 along with 200 volunteers) . Keynote speaker, Astronaut Sunita Williams spoke of her journey of becoming the astronaut who now holds several records for being in space and participating in extra vehicular activities; she told the students that sometimes not getting your first choice can lead to a new path that will open new opportunities. Wanting to be a Navy diver (through the Naval Academy), she was not selected; she was selected for helicopter pilot training and flew in the Persian gulf and other places after which she was selected for the Navy test flight program. On a tour of the NASA Johnson Space Center, Astronaut John Young, who is one of 12 Americans to walk on the moon, talked of his lunar lander as being similar to being in a helicopter. Sunita applied to become an astronaut. Among the most sought after workshops annually is the Starbase Hawaii flight simulation training sessions.

In the same way, a flight training center and associated courses in Hilo would become part of the work force development pipeline in science, technology and engineering which already has a foundation in programs offered by the Civil Air Patrol, Starbase Hawaii and other aeronautical programs on the Big Island. The Hilo International Airport is currently underutilized, offers air traffic control, ramp space, nearby over land and over water training airspace, and flight training opportunities in varied weather conditions and provides a nearby proximity to the University of Hawaii at Hilo and the Hawaii Community College. This program and center would attract students statewide, nationally and internationally, while addressing the need for pilots and associated aeronautical technical jobs, while providing technical training and support for other science and technology employment opportunities including those related to the astronomy projects on Mauna Kea.

As educators involved in aerospace education for over 25 years, it is clearly evident that students need a relevant and engaging context to apply their learning science and math. Programs that we have participated in and coordinated including trips to the U.S. Space Camp which includes an aeronautics academy, Department of Education space conferences, Future Flight Hawaii, and local, national and



international workshops and professional development, have demonstrated time and again that project based and applied learning provides the needed concrete application of abstract concepts. The training center and programs will become a catalyst toward inspiring the next generation of explorers while providing an economic opportunity for the State of Hawaii.

Astronaut Ellison Onizuka said to the Konawaena High School graduating class in 1985:

"Your vision is not limited to what you can see, but what your mind can imagine. Many things that you can take for granted were considered unrealistic dreams by previous generations. If you accept these past accomplishments as commonplace then think of the new horizons you can explore. From your vantage point, your education and imagination will carry you to places which we won't believe possible. make your life count-- and the world will be a better place because you tried."

Ellison Onizuka became a flight test engineer in the United States Air Force, and later became Hawaii's first astronaut. In the vision of Ellison Onizuka, we support this unique opportunity to enable our students to reach for the stars.

Art and Rene Kimura

Educational Specialists

Hawaii Space Grant Consortium, University of Hawaii at Manoa



## HAWAII ISLAND CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION

494-C Kalanikoa Street \* Hilo, Hawaii 96720 \* Phone: 808/935-1316 \* Fax: 808/934-7779 \* Email: [hical@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:hical@hawaiiantel.net)

### Testimony to the House Committee on Higher Education

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

2:10 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 309

1221

RE: SB~~1121~~ SD2 Relating to Higher Education

*fr*

Dear Chair Choy, Vice-Chair Ichiyama, and members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Island Contractors Association **supports** SB1121 SD2, Relating to Higher Education, which would appropriate funds for a program coordinator and technical staff to complete the planning for an international flight training center at the Hilo International Airport.

With the ever increasing demand for pilots and various aviation related jobs this bill would allow our keiki the opportunity to study and earn a degree here on Hawaii Island. The economic benefits to our island would be substantial and number in the millions. An international flight training center would also serve to diversify our economy and create jobs both during the construction phase and permanent positions once completed.

We believe that the international flight training center is very important to the County Of Hawaii and the State. Please support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Craig Takamine", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Craig Takamine  
President 2012-2013