

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2107

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 07 2014

RE: S.B. No. 2583

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2014  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and  
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2583 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL  
SPACE CENTER FOR EXPLORATION SYSTEMS AND NATIONAL AERONAUTICS  
AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION LASER COMMUNICATIONS GROUND STATION  
INITIATIVE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate  
funds for a National Aeronautics and Space Administration and  
Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems  
engineering assessment of a proposal to establish a laser optical  
communications ground station in Hawaii, with infrastructure  
construction beginning in 2016, contingent on a dollar-for-dollar  
match of funds from the National Aeronautics and Space  
Administration.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and  
Tourism; University of Hawaii Hilo; Hawaii County Council; Pacific  
International Space Center for Exploration Systems; Ferraro Choi;  
Paragon Space Development Corporation; and eleven individuals.

Your Committee finds that space laser technology has the  
potential to support laser communications between spacecraft and  
Earth, provide ten to one hundred times higher data rates than  
traditional radio frequency systems with the same mass and power,  
and stimulate the State's economy through the creation of high-  
tech jobs. Your Committee further finds that the National

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Aeronautics and Space Administration conducted a detailed statistical analysis of weather patterns and identified Hawaii as the best site in the United States to establish the first laser optical communications ground station.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2583 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military  
Affairs,



WILL ESPERO, Chair



