



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

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Tuesday, April 11, 2017
1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of

GM 621
**SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE
HAWAII AEROSPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, GUBERNATORIAL
NOMINEE DONALD STRANEY, FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE 6-30-2021.**

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism strongly supports the nomination of Dr. Donald Straney to the Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee (HAAC) for a term to expire June 30, 2021.

As set forth in Act 52 from the 2009 Legislative Session, a representative from the University of Hawaii at Hilo shall be appointed to represent this institution on the HAAC. Chancellor Straney has served in this position since the Committee's inception, and his extensive efforts toward expanding and diversifying both scientific research and STEM-related activities at the University have been instrumental in enabling our State to pursue a broad range of aerospace-related activities on the Big Island, including development of a commercial spaceport in Kona, the launch and operation of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES), diverse public and private applications of unmanned aerial systems (UAS), and other opportunities that will leverage Hawaii's unique geological and geographical characteristics to help establish our State as a global leader in this industry.

As such, we strongly recommend that Chancellor Straney be reappointed to represent the University of Hawaii at Hilo on the HAAC.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this nomination.

Written Statement of:
Rodrigo Romo
Program Manager, PISCES.

Before the:
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
April 11th, 2017
13:15
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
In Support of
**GM620 & GM621 Consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors the Hawai'i Aerospace
Advisory Committee (HAAC), Gubernatorial Nominee Donald Straney.**

To: Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice-Chair Senator Glenn Wakai; and members of the committees.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **GM620 & GM621**.

As the Program Manager for the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) I strongly support the nomination of Donald Straney to the Board of HAAC.

Jacqui is a strong asset for HAAC, his knowledge of the local culture and the local economy, as well as his position with the University makes him a valuable person to have in the board.

Mahalo nui

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Romo". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rodrigo Romo
Program Manager
PISCES