



Written Statement of
Robbie Melton
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
House Committee on Economic Development and Business
Wednesday, March 22, 2017
11:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HCR 143
REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN FOR THE HILO INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE
AND TECHNOLOGY PARK.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Business.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) **supports the intent** and offers **comments** on HCR 143 that requests DBEDT to develop a master plan for the Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park.

As part of HTDC's vision to create 80,000 new innovation jobs in Hawaii earning \$80,000 or more by 2030, HTDC supports initiatives aimed at promoting technology and innovation jobs. HTDC is currently conducting a feasibility study for the multipurpose processing facility in Hilo in partnership with University of Hawaii at Hilo and the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. The results of the study will offer some insights that can contribute to the plan.

HTDC defers to DBEDT on the implementation of this resolution. As an attached agency that frequently supports DBEDT special projects, HTDC comments that we are available to support economic development working group discussions, however, without additional staff or budget, we do not have the resources to lead the planning activities.

HTDC comments that with all tech parks, a working group of all stakeholders is required and would be the first step before DBEDT could develop a master plan. Stakeholders who would benefit from an aerospace tech park should be identified to come up with a vision for the activities. A study should be conducted by a third party to develop a business plan, identify the appropriate activities, and identify who would be the responsible entity for managing such a tech park

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

11:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of

HCR 143

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
AND TOURISM TO DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN FOR THE HILO INTERNATIONAL
AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK.**

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism respectfully offers **comments with concerns** regarding this resolution.

The vision to develop an aerospace and technology park in Hawaii to support aviation maintenance and training, the design and manufacture of aircraft systems, and both aviation and aerospace related research could build upon Hawaii's strategic mid-Pacific near-equatorial location, existing aviation infrastructure, and resident expertise in related fields, potentially generating new commercial and educational opportunities for our State.

However, formulation of a detailed strategic master plan to help guide the development and implementation of the proposed park will require both funding and dedicated staff support, as well as adequate time for completion.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Development & Business
March 22, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

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

HCR143 - REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO DEVELOP A MASTER PLAN FOR THE HILO INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE AND TECHNOLOGY PARK

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for HCR143. My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo). I am testifying as a member of the Hawai'i Island community and I support the intent of HCR143 to develop a master plan for the Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park.

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo is positioned to offer aeronautical science education to a primarily in-state resident market. Pending administrative approval, the Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical Science degree program will produce locally grown pilots to help address the looming worldwide pilot shortage. Training a pilot workforce in-state promotes the self-sufficiency of Hawai'i and increases its resiliency to shifting employment markets.

With its wide-open spaces, diverse environment and uncongested airspace, the Big Island of Hawai'i is an ideal staging ground for aerospace training and research. A Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park would take advantage of an economic region well-suited to student residency and visiting researchers. The astronomy industry is a working example of international engagement and participation on Hawai'i island.

I urge the Committee on Economic Development & Business to approve this resolution for the future of our state and to ensure a bright future for our keiki.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HCR143. Aloha.



Written Statement of:
Rodrigo Romo
Program Manager, PISCES.

Before the:
Committee on Economic Development & Business

March 22nd 2017

11:00

State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In Support of

**HCR143: Requesting the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism to Develop a
Master Plan for the Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park**

To: Chair Rep. Mark Nakashima and Vice-Chair Rep. Jarrett Keohokalole

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of HCR143.**

The Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems, PISCES, fully agrees to participate in the creation of the Master Plan for the Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park.

PISCES recognizes the impact that a properly planned Aerospace and Technology Park can have on East Hawaii's economic development and advances in education and career tracks.

For this reason, we support this resolution.

Mahalo.

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

Rodrigo Romo
Program Manager
PISCES

keohokalole2 - Anthony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:20 PM
To: edbtestimony
Cc: makiaweli2012@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR143 on Mar 22, 2017 11:00AM

HCR143

Submitted on: 3/19/2017

Testimony for EDB on Mar 22, 2017 11:00AM in Conference Room 309

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
keomailani von gogh	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, i would like to say that I oppose this measure. We need to be working on economicly developing in areas that are sustainable and that start to heal the earth. These aerospace parks and commercial space flights benefit a few. This is a ridiculous proposal. Also the leases for the observatories will be up in 2033. So what's the the point? Also, when did the people of Hilo decide this would be a good place for their tax dollars to be spent. It sounds like another instance of our taxes going to subsidize some more corporations big plans. Talk to the people!!! Mahalo for your time

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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