



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

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LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
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Statement of

**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
**Director**

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

Friday, April 21, 2017

9:30 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

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 Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, 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.



Written Statement of:  
**Rodrigo Romo**  
**Program Manager, PISCES.**

Before the:  
**Committee on Ways and Means**

April 21, 2017

09:30

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

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 Sen. Jill Tokuda and Vice-Chair Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz

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

The Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems, PISCES, agrees to collaborate within its resources and limitations 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.

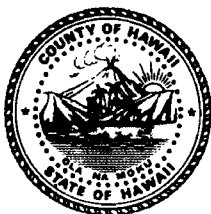
For this reason, we support this resolution.

Mahalo.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Romo".

Rodrigo Romo  
Program Manager  
PISCES

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Wil Okabe  
Managing Director

Barbara J. Kossow  
Deputy Managing Director

## County of Hawai'i

### Office of the Mayor

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April 19, 2017

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda and Committee members:

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 143. Hilo has all the assets to make it a prime location for such a park, and certainly could benefit from the economic, technologic, and scientific activity such a park would generate.

The County would be pleased to be participate in the planning process if this resolution is approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Written Statement of  
**Robbie Melton**  
Executive Director & CEO  
High Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**  
Friday, April 21, 2017  
9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

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 Tokuda, Vice Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means.

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.

To Glenn Wakai, Chair

Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair

And Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Business

HCR143 Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park; Master Plan

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Cerina Harada and I am a student at the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. I strongly support the intent to develop a master plan for the Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park.

As a student in the UH system, I support providing specialized science education to my peers and the future students of Hawaii. The Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park can provide employment opportunities for local residents and internship opportunities to students of the University of Hawaii. These students could obtain further knowledge and experience that would otherwise be obtained at an out-of-state school. This would result in less money going to the state, and an increase in tuition expenses from local parents.

Other states in the country possess aerospace and technology parks, and during my personal visits there I believe they are a fun learning opportunity for kids and their families. The park can generate funds for Hawaii through recreational visits, and it could be marketed as an educational field trip to schools around the state. Through meticulous financial planning of the park, the Hilo International Aerospace and Technology Park could provide Hawaii with tourism revenue, educational opportunities for Hawaii's youth, and employment opportunities for civilians in Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide my view on this matter.