



Pacific International
Space Center for
Exploration Systems

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Senate Nominee
Term: 2014 – 2018

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Ex-Officio, Executive Director,
PISCES
Term: 2013 –

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Term: 2016 – 2020

Luke Flynn
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Term: 2013 – holdover

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Term: 2013 –

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Term: 2015 – 2018

Patrick Sullivan
House Nominee
Term: 2014 – 2018

Vacant, House Nominee
Term: 2015 - 2019

Statement of
Rodrigo Romo
Program Director

Pacific International Space Center for Explorations Systems (PISCES),
Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557

**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)**

Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Dear members of the committee I want to express my appreciation and strong support for HB2557.

Over the past four years PISCES has seen its funding reduced to the point where staffing has had to be reduced and some workforce development programs are at risk of being eliminated .

One of PISCES' primary objectives is to work with Hawai'i's youth in workforce development programs to better prepare them to meet the demands of the high tech job market. In the past 4 years PISCES has provided hands on work experience to over 30 university interns in its internship program and exposed over 30 high school girls to STEM related fields of study in its STARS program. PISCES' interns that graduate from college end in high paying jobs with prestigious companies. STARS participants tend to follow a STEM related program in college.

This bill provides PISCES with the funding required to continue working these highly valuable programs and therefore I strongly recommend your consideration to pass it, so long as it does not reduce the budget priorities of the State Financial Plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.

Rodrigo Romo
Program Director
PISCES
99 Aupuni St. Ste 212-213
Hilo, HI 96720

Statement of
Kyla P. Defore, former PISCES Intern
Geology Technician
The Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES)
Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)

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Dear members of the Committee,

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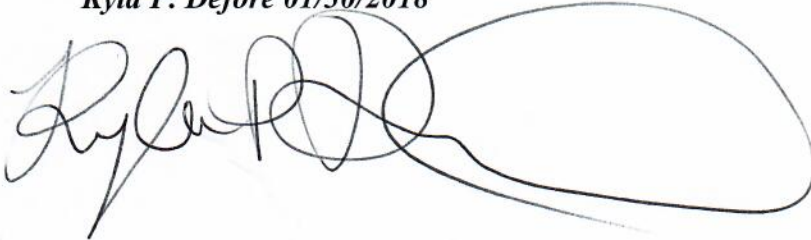
I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate in the Summer Internship Program with PISCES. I can say that this program made a positive impact on my life and career and it is truly worth funding through HB2557 to continue providing more opportunities in STEM and related fields for college students like myself.

Programs like this are difficult to find in Hawaii and provide a unique opportunity for students to expand on their studies and future careers through inspiration, direct mentorship and hands-on experience, and to become successful in the demanding high-tech industry.

Your affirmative consideration of this bill will be greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,

Kyla P. Defore 01/30/2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kyla P. Defore', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Statement of
Casey Pearring, former PISCES Intern
DevOps Engineer
Taos Mountain, LLC.

Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
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Programs like this are difficult to find in Hawaii and provide a unique opportunity for students to expand on their studies and future careers through inspiration, direct mentorship and hands-on experience, and to become successful in the demanding high-tech industry.

Our islands already struggle with keeping STEM students to stay or return home, as the university systems and economy hardly have any STEM careers. High Schools are starting to grasp the need for STEM programs, but students need another step to continue their progress in the STEM field. PISCES is one such step.

Your affirmative consideration of this bill will be greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Casey Pearring', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Casey Pearring, 01/30/2018

Statement of
Alexandra Skees
Special Events Coordinator, Education
Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor
Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)**

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Dear members of the Committee,

I wish to express my appreciation and strong support for HB2557.

The State of Hawaii has limited opportunities for young future engineers and scientists to participate in real-life, hands-on internship and education programs like the ones offered by PISCES. This bill will support the continuation and growth of the important workforce development initiatives offered at PISCES, like their Summer Internship Program and Women's STARS Program.

Former PISCES interns have gone on to land prestigious internships and employment opportunities in fields related to their internship work following graduation. In addition, the Women's STARS Program offered to high school girls provides a valuable and potentially life-changing experience to local women interested in STEM by engaging them with successful female scientists and providing them with the encouragement and mentorship they need to succeed.

HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon these valuable workforce development programs and I strongly support its passing.

Mahalo,

Alexandra Skees, 1/30/2018



Statement of
Bernard Michels
Hawaii Community College
Dept. Head / Instructor

Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)**

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

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HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon these valuable workforce development programs and I strongly support its passing.

Mahalo,

Bernard Michels

Statement of
Alexandra Nisenoff, STARS Program alumnus
University of Chicago
Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)**

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Dear members of the Committee,

I wish to express my appreciation and strong support for HB2557.

As a former STARS Program participant, I can say that this program made a positive impact on my life and it is truly worth funding through HB2557 to continue providing more opportunities in STEM and related fields for local female students like myself.

Programs like this are difficult to find in Hawaii and provide a unique opportunity for students to expand on their studies and future careers through inspiration, direct mentorship and hands-on experience, and to become successful in a demanding high-tech industry.

Your affirmative consideration of this bill will be greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,

Alexandra Nisenoff, 1/30/18

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexandra Nisenoff". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Statement of
Claudia Zirolì
Owner, Hawaiian EDucational Pursuits, Llc
educational travel for students

Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)**

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Dear members of the Committee,

I wish to express my appreciation and strong support for HB2557.

The State of Hawaii has limited opportunities for young future engineers and scientists to participate in real-life, hands-on internship and education programs like the ones offered by PISCES. This bill will support the continuation and growth of the important workforce development initiatives offered at PISCES, like their Summer Internship Program and Women's STARS Program.

Former PISCES interns have gone on to land prestigious internships and employment opportunities in fields related to their internship work following graduation. In addition, the Women's STARS Program offered to high school girls provides a valuable and potentially life-changing experience to local women interested in STEM by engaging them with successful female scientists and providing them with the encouragement and mentorship they need to succeed.

I so appreciate the work that PISCES do as a matter of educational outreach. Most of my international students are interested in astronomy and related technologies. Many have plans to attend school at UHH. The programs that PISCES does for our students are so valuable for STEM learning, encouraging and supporting international student travel to Hawai'i, and certainly help to create a positive light on coming to Hawai'i for advanced degrees. Who wouldn't want to learn about the technology for creating a base on the moon!?

HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon these valuable workforce development programs and I strongly support its passing.

Mahalo,
Claudia Zirolì
January 30, 2018

HB-2557

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 8:33:44 AM

Testimony for EDB on 2/2/2018 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Baicy		Support	No

Comments:

Hawaii needs to expand opportunities to get kids involved in technical fields that can directly contribute to the State's economy. Hawaii has a rare opportunity to grow it's aerospace industry and we will need lots of home grown experts to work in these areas.

PICSES has a proven success rate with helping kids get ahead in technical fields and their dedication to building industries here in Hawaii are critical to allow Hawaii to deversity its economy away from just tourism and the military.

Statement of
Keegan Kirkpatrick
Chief Executive Officer
RedWorks Construction Technologies Inc.

Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Dear members of the Committee,

I wish to express my appreciation and strong support for HB2557.

The State of Hawaii has limited opportunities for young future engineers and scientists to participate in real-life, hands-on internship and education programs like the ones offered by PISCES. This bill will support the continuation and growth of the important workforce development initiatives offered at PISCES, like their Summer Internship Program and Women's STARS Program.

Former PISCES interns have gone on to land prestigious internships and employment opportunities in fields related to their internship work following graduation. In addition, the Women's STARS Program offered to high school girls provides a valuable and potentially life-changing experience to local women interested in STEM by engaging them with successful female scientists and providing them with the encouragement and mentorship they need to succeed.

HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon these valuable workforce development programs and I strongly support its passing.

Mahalo,

Keegan Kirkpatrick, January 31, 2018





Hilo Intermediate School · 587 Waiuanuenue Avenue · Hilo, Hawaii 96720

MEMORANDUM

Statement of

Dr. Pascale Creek Pinner

NBCT – Secondary Science Teacher
Hilo Intermediate School

Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2, 2018, @8:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of

HB2557

**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR EXPLORATION SYSTEMS
(PISCES)**

To: Chair Evans, Vice-Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee

Dear members of the Committee:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB2557. Here in our wonderful state of Hawaii, there are very limited opportunities for future engineers, and scientists. The PISCES education programs provide just that, real-life, hands-on, problem-solving, engineering design internships and education programs. The bill you have in your hands will support the continuation and growth of these important workforce development initiatives offered at PISCES, including their Summer Internship Program and the Women's STARS Program.

I know for a fact that my former students have benefitted from these programs. Many have gone on to earn prestigious scholarships, internships and employment opportunities in fields related to their research following high school AND college graduation. My son is a prime example. He was exposed to the PISCES program at it's inception and is currently at New Mexico State University studying to be a aerospace technician. Many of the hands-on experiences he gained came from the exposure to the work that is being done through the PISCES program.

As a female science teacher, I am also pleased that the Women's STARS program is available for my former students, who are now in high school. I have seen how this program has changed their perspective on their future college aspirations in a way that will eventually benefit our local economy and island.

HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon those successes and I truly STRONGLY support the passing of this bill.

Mahalo,


Dr. Pascale Creek Pinner, NBCT
February 1, 2018

HB-2557

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 5:08:09 PM

Testimony for EDB on 2/2/2018 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kris zacny		Support	No

Comments:

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Dear members of the Committee,

I wish to express my strong support for HB2557. The State of Hawaii has limited opportunities for young engineers and scientists to participate in hands-on internship and education programs like the ones offered by PISCES. This bill will support the continuation and growth of the important workforce development initiatives like their Summer Internship Program and Women’s STARS Program.

Former PISCES interns have received prestigious internships and employment opportunities. In addition, the Women’s STARS Program offered to high school girls provides a valuable and potentially life-changing experience to local women interested in STEM by engaging them with other female scientists

HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon these valuable workforce development programs and I strongly support its passing.

Mahalo,

Statement of
Nyra Dee
High School Science Teacher
Hilo High School
Before the
Committee on Economic Development & Business
Friday, February 2nd, 2018 @ 08:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB2557
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS (PISCES)**

To: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee.

Aloha members of the Committee,

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HB2557 will allow PISCES to continue building upon these valuable workforce development programs and I strongly support its passing.

Mahalo nui loa,

Nyra Dee

Nyra Dee
31Jan2018