



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

LATE

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism and Technology
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Government Operations
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 1:15 p.m.

by

Luke Flynn, Director, Hawai'i Space Flight Laboratory
on behalf of Vassilis L. Syrmos, Vice President for Research and Innovation
University of Hawai'i System

SB 2702 – RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT OF THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY

Chairs Wakai, Nishihara, and Kim, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Ruderman, and members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i (UH) supports the intent of this measure to form a unified aerospace development corporation to support a rapidly growing industry that could become a major economic driver for the state.

While “Big Space” will continue to be dominated by government agencies, small satellites have allowed exponential growth in the commercial sector. The need for small launchers is rapidly increasing as indicated in an August 26, 2016 *Economist* article that references five U.S. companies needing to get 4,700 small satellites to space in the next five years. Four U.S. small launch companies have expressed interest to use a potential easterly launch site in Hawai'i because rockets launched from Hawai'i lift more payload to orbit than any other state due to its location near the Equator. Small launch is a large niche market that Hawai'i can fill. Small satellites and their derived data now represent tens of billions of dollars per year. Hawai'i must move quickly and effectively to capture this opportunity for this generation and the next.

In support of the further expansion of an aerospace industry in Hawai'i, UH has programs like the Hawai'i Space Grant Consortium (HSGC) that build and maintain pipelines of education and experiential learning that bring Hawai'i students from middle school to graduate school in an aerospace and STEM environment. In 2015, the Hawai'i Space Flight Laboratory's first launch from the Pacific Missile Range Facility did not achieve orbit, but put the world on notice that Hawai'i could become space-faring state and that UH students have the ability to build and design satellites certified for space flight.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

LATE

SB-2702

Submitted on: 1/31/2018 1:17:20 PM

Testimony for ETT on 1/31/2018 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
TOURISM, AND TECHNOLOGY;
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS;
AND
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
THE SENATE
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Wednesday, January 31, 2018
1:15 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 414**

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 2707 RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY

To the Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair; the Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology:

To the Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair; the Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs:

To the Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair; the Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Government Operations:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No. 2707, relating to the establishment of the Hawaii Aerospace Development Corporation. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 2707 and support its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2707 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it establishes the Hawaii aerospace development corporation to grow investments and job opportunities in the aerospace industry and for workforce development.

The DPH "recognizes that the responsible use and development of technology in all its manifestations offer immense potential for our community, government, including institutions of higher education and business sectors. DPH encourages synergistic research, development, commercialization and educational programs that promote technological proficiency and innovation. In particular, DPH supports Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) initiatives in our public, private and charter schools as these prepare the next generation to address the needs of our state. DPH also supports programs that facilitate incubator, i.e., start-up opportunities for new and promising technologies and encourages the local retention of our intellectual resources." (DPH Platform, Lines 148-156 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No. 2707 establishes the Hawaii Aerospace Development Corporation, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Committee to support this measure as it facilitates start-up opportunities for new and promising technologies and encourages the local retention of our intellectual resources.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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SB 2702 RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT OF THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRY

I'm rhapsodically in support of SB 2702 with reservation. There were two crucial building blocks of economic development that were not reflected those being that of the **Entrepreneurship Imperative** and that of **Inclusive Competitiveness**.

The **Entrepreneurship Imperative** authenticates that entrepreneurship has been the fundamental core to economic prosperity and will continue to be the foundation for economic sustainability and longevity.

Inclusive Competitiveness upholds the dignity that the disconnected American has a right to be not only at the helm of the decision makers but to have their talent and resources cultivated, and utilized acknowledging them as vital contributor to the American Economy who energies have not yet to be recognized nor realized in the Aerospace Industry and that we should harness the eight communities of influence i.e. education, community, policy, funding, development, industry, entrepreneurs and communications to further refine our endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted

PM Azinga, Global Educator/Citizen Diplomat