



Pacific International
Space Center for
Exploration Systems

PISCES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Henk Rogers, Chair
Senate Nominee
Term: 2014 – 2022

Mike McCartney
Ex-Officio, Director, DBEDT
Designated Alternates

Chung I. Chang
Deputy Director, DBEDT
Term: 2020 – 2022

Mary Alice Evans
Director, Office of Planning
Term: 2013 – 2022

Bonnie Irwin
Ex-Officio, Chancellor of the
University of Hawai'i at Hilo
Term: 2020 –

David Lassner
Ex-Officio, President of the
University of Hawai'i
Designated Alternate,
Brennon Morioka
Dean of the College of
Engineering at the University
of Hawai'i at Manoa
Term: 2013 –

David DeLuz, Jr.
Governor Nominee
Term: 2020 - 2021

Luke Flynn
Governor Nominee
Term: 2016 – 2023

Dennis Gibson
House Nominee
Term: 2018 – 2022

Rachel Solemsaas
House Nominee
Term: 2018 – 2022

Kim Binsted
Senate Nominee
Term: 2016 – 2024

Statement of
Rodrigo Romo
Program Director
Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES)
Before the
Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism
Committee on Higher Education
Monday, March 22nd, 2021 @ 15:15, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
HB862-HD1 RELATING TO STATE GOVERNMENT

Dear Chairs Wakai & Mercado, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani and members of the Committee:

I am writing to express strong support of this.

The Aerospace Industry is a rapid growing industry that could help the State on its path towards Economic Recovery. Hawaii has various advantages both geographical as well as geological that make it an ideal location for various aerospace related activities. This Bill transfers the Pacific International Space for Exploration Systems to the University of Hawaii in Hilo and allows it to continue its work related to Aerospace development, workforce development and applied research.

The works PISCES has been doing with regards to Economic Development involving the Aerospace Industry, Workforce Development for the younger generations and applied research play an important role in the recovery of Hawaii.

In order for PISCES to continue with its operations, funding will be required for the agency.

We appreciate the support this committee has shown to the PISCES program in the past and thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.

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



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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

CHUNG I. CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
And

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Monday, March 22, 2021

3:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of

HB 862 HD2, Proposed SD1
RELATING TO STATE GOVERNMENT.

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani, and members of the Committees. The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) provides the following comments on HB 862 HD2, Proposed SD1, which abolishes the Office of Aerospace Development (OAD), Aerospace Advisory Committee, and the Hawaii Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Site Advisory Board. Additionally, it transfers: administration of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) from DBEDT to the University of Hawaii at Hilo Imiloa and transfers the administration, along with all rights, powers, functions; duties of the Challenger Center Hawaii (CCH) program from OAD to the Department of Education (DOE); and all appropriations of CCH program from OAD to DOE.

OAD's mission is to facilitate dialogue and coordination among the state's government, private and academic sectors, and between state-based organizations and overseas institutions, both public and private, to promote the development and diversification of Hawaii's aerospace industry.

Since 2018, OAD has focused on prioritizing its initiatives to support the diversification of Hawaii's aerospace economy through drones, robotics, aviation education, and local conferences. Additionally, as a member of the Policy Committee in the Aerospace States Association, OAD makes sure that Hawaii contributes to the national aerospace policy recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
And
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Monday, March 22, 2021 at 3:15 p.m.
By
Bonnie Irwin
Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 862 HD2 Proposed SD1 – RELATING TO STATE GOVERNMENT

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani, and members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) is in support of Section 1 of HB 862 HD2 Proposed SD1, Relating to State Government. This section seeks to transfer administration of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) to the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center at UH Hilo for administrative purposes only. We support this bill provided that it is properly funded by the Legislature.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 03/22/2021

Time: 03:15 PM

Location: CR 224 & Videoconference

Committee: Senate Energy, Economic
Development, and Tourism
Senate Higher Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0862, HD2 SD1 Proposed RELATING TO STATE
GOVERNMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Abolishes the office of aerospace development, aerospace advisory committee, and the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site advisory board. Transfers administration of the Pacific international space center for exploration systems from the department of business, economic development, and tourism to the University of Hawaii at Hilo Imiloa. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD2)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 862, HD2, SD1 proposed. The Department supports the Challenger Center Hawaii program to be transferred from the Office of Aerospace Development and placed within Department of Education for administrative purposes.

The Challenger Center Hawaii, one of more than 40 Challenger learning centers in the United States and globally, promotes a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education program. Challenger Center Hawaii's missions immerse students in a hands-on experience where they apply problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

These learning opportunities have served as a springboard for students to embark in STEM careers. Since 1993, over 132,000 Hawaii students have participated in a Challenger Center Hawaii mission and have been inspired by the legacy of Ellison Onizuka and his contribution to the aerospace industry.

During the Legislative Session of 2013, the budget was amended to appropriate 5.0 FTE in EDN 100 and \$248,656 in general funds in BED 128 Office of Aerospace. These amendments are found on page 121 and 205 of the Legislative Budget

Worksheets:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2013/worksheets/HB200_HD1_SD1_CD1_Worksheets.pdf Since this time, the Office of Aerospace has needed to transfer the funds required to support the 5.0 FTE to the Department on an annual basis.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



Challenger Center Hawaii
Barbers Point Elementary School
3001 Boxer Road
Kapolei, HI 96707

Ph: (808) 673-7410

www.ChallengerCenterHawaii.com

Challenger Center Hawaii (CCHI) supports this measure (HB862 H.D. 2 S.D.1) that will transfer the administration, along with all rights, powers, functions, duties and all appropriations for CCHI from the Office of Aerospace Development (DBEDT) to the Department of Education (DOE).

As Teachers, delivering a STEM education program, we agree that CCHI is better aligned with the DOE. We are grateful for the support the Office of Aerospace Development has provided and for the successful partnership we have built with DBEDT throughout the years.

CCHI will do our utmost to perpetuate Ellison Onizuka's legacy, inspire the next generation of Hawaii's innovators, and be on the cutting edge of STEM education.

We appreciate the support this committee has shown to CCHI and thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Respectfully yours,

Liane Kim
Director



From: Doug Simons, Executive Director, Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope

To: Committee on Higher Education
Senator Kim, Chair Higher Education Committee
Senator Kidani, Vice Chair Higher Education Committee.

Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism
Senator Wakai, Chair Energy, Economic Development, & Tourism Committee
Senator Misalucha, Vice Chair Energy, Economic Development, & Tourism Committee

Subject: Testimony of **Support** for HB 862-HD2, Proposed SD1 Relating to State Government

Date: 21 March 2021

Through this letter I would like to state my strong **support** for HB 862-HD2 (Proposed SD1) which abolishes the office of aerospace development, aerospace advisory committee, and the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site advisory board. This bill also transfers administration of the Pacific international space center for exploration systems (PISCES) from the department of business, economic development, and tourism to the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

This bill will help stabilize the future for PISCES, which has for many years been an important partner to CFHT in education and workforce development. PISCES has demonstrated convincingly that they are a pioneer in high-tech development activity on Hawai'i Island and they have become an integral partner on many fronts with the Maunakea Observatories, a leader worldwide in astronomical research. The high-tech research conducted and supported by PISCES benefits the development of aerospace and other local industries in Hawai'i. PISCES has been a strong supporter of STEM education and workforce development for high school and college students, partnering on numerous occasions with CFHT and providing unique opportunities in robotics design and engineering. I look forward to many years of continued partnership between Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope and PISCES and would deeply value your support of PISCES and all it represents to the future of Hawai'i through this legislation.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doug Simons".

Dr. Douglas A. Simons
Executive Director
Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Corp.



Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

sustainableenergyhawaii.org

421 Lama St.

Hilo, HI 96720

March 20, 2021

SUPPORT for HB 862 HD2 RELATING TO STATE GOVERNMENT

Dear Chairs Wakai and Mercado, Vice-Chairs Misalucha and Kidani, and members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism, and the Committee on Higher Education,

I am Richard Ha, Chair of Sustainable Energy Hawai'i, a coalition of concerned citizens dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii residents.

Sustainable Energy Hawai'i is in STRONG SUPPORT of HB 862 HD2.

Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) has been doing incredible work in STEM, workforce development, aerospace industry, and space exploration. These areas are critical for our state's recovery from the impact of the pandemic and the much-needed diversification of our economy.

This measure will allow PISCES to continue its valuable work.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Ha", is placed above the printed name and title.

Richard Ha

Chair

Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 6:25:45 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nick Gencarelle	Testifying for Smarter Building Systems LLC	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in favor and strongly support bill HB862 HD2. PISCES is a critical part in regard to economic developments in the aerospace industry, workforce development for Hawaii and research in space exploration which is vital for our country Continuing the education of potential uses of our volcanic resources for the good of mankind. Advances in basalt volcanic rock and the fiber that is made from it and will replace petroleum based fiberglass reinforcements in many products. Basalt will make for a safer, longer lasting infrastructure, utilizing recyclable and all natural from the earth materials which are crucial to our sustainability and reduced carbon footprint. Sincerely, Nick Gencarelle

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 1:02:41 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Binsted	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I submitted testimony against an earlier version of this bill, but I am in full support of the current version. The work that the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) is doing with regards to economic development in the aerospace industry, workforce development for young students in the state, and applied research in space exploration is vital for the recovery of the state. This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the University of Hawaii in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to do the work that it has been doing in the past.

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 3:51:26 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Edison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because I support aerospace in the state of Hawaii. I support the work that PISCES does for the community and the betterment of science.

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 3:49:09 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyla Defore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because I support aerospace in Hawaii and the work the PISCES does for the community and the betterment of science.

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 8:41:25 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
HENK ROGERS	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of this Bill. The work that the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) is doing with regards to economic development in the aerospace industry, workforce development for young students in the state and applied research in space exploration is vital for the recovery of the state. This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the University of Hawaii in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to do the work that it has been doing in the past.

Aerospace is an area where Hawaii can experience major growth as our country enters into the next space race. This time the race is to build a permanent settlement on the Moon before China and Russia, who have teamed up, do. The terrain of the Big Island is the closest to Lunar conditions of any place in the country.

**Statement of
Pauline Roth
Kea'au, Hawai'i**

Before the
Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism
Committee on Higher Education
Monday, March 22nd, 2021 @ 15:15, Conference Room 224

In consideration of
HB862-HD1 RELATING TO STATE GOVERNMENT

Dear Chairs Wakai & Mercado, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani and members of the Committee:

I am writing to express strong support of this bill. The Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) performs valuable work in the development of an aerospace economic sector in Hawai'i. PISCES has earned the respect of government and private researchers and investors in the field. In addition to cutting edge applied research and broad industry outreach efforts, PISCES also addresses the development of an able, local, technical workforce. The presence of available, capable workers is an essential element of the business environment required for the development of any industry.

This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the University of Hawai'i in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to make valuable contributions to the development of the aerospace industry.

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 3:19:55 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandy Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Statement of Sandy Ryan

Before the

Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism

Committee on Higher Education

Monday, March 22nd, 2021 @ 15:15, Conference Room 224

In consideration of

HB862-HD1 RELATING TO STATE GOVERNMENT

Dear Chairs Wakai & Mercado, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani and members of the Committee:

As a member of the Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee, I have had the privilege of working closely with the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) on initiatives that promote Hawaii's Aerospace Sector.

I am writing in strong support of this Bill. The work that PISCES is doing with regards to economic development in the aerospace industry, workforce development for young students in the state, and applied research in space exploration is vital for Hawaii's economic recovery. This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the

University of Hawaii in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to do the work that it has been doing in the past.

Sincerely,

Sandy Ryan

sryanmaui@gmail.com

[\(808\) 283-1267](tel:(808)283-1267)

LATE

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 3:55:03 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Dowd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in very strong support of this Bill. The work that the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) is doing with regard to economic development in the aerospace industry, workforce development for young students in the state, and applied research in space exploration is vital for the recovery of the state. This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the University of Hawaii in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to do the work that it has been doing in the past. PISCES is a MUST FUND program.

LATE

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 7:08:37 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robbie Melton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairs Wakai & Mercado, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani and members of the Committee:

I am writing to express strong support of this bill. Pisces a critical organization for our young people in Hawaii. The research it conducts and the programs they have created has changed the lives of many of our youth to pursue careers in the sciences, particularly the astronomy and aeronautics. Young people who may not have gone to college have ended up in prestigious universities and working for federal agencies like NASA. To eliminate PISCES will take away these programs that develop the workforce of tomorrow and in high paying jobs.

The research PISCES conducts is state of the art and help our country's space program. Hawaii is ripe to play a major role in the space economy.

Thank you for allowing me to testify and for your consideration.

LATE

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 7:09:51 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Austen Drake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairs Wakai & Mercado, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Kidani and members of the Committee:

I am writing in strong support of this Bill. The work that the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) is doing with regards to economic development in the aerospace industry, workforce development for young students in the state and applied research in space exploration is vital for the recovery of the state. This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the University of Hawaii in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to do the work that it has been doing in the past.

Thanks for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Austen Drake, P.E.

LATE

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 6:47:09 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha:

I apologize for the late submittal of my late testimony.

*I am writing to you this morning to express my **STRONG SUPPORT** of this Bill. The work that the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) is doing with regards to economic development in the aerospace industry, workforce development for young students in the state and applied research in space exploration is vital for the recovery of the state. This Bill would relocate PISCES from DBEDT and transfer it to the University of Hawaii in Hilo where it would be allowed to continue to do the work that it has been doing in the past.*

*Thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony and your consideration in **SUPPORTING HB 862.***

Mahalo,

David S. De Luz, Jr.

808-895-4284

LATE

HB-862-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2021 11:31:15 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/22/2021 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chris Yoakum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm writing in support of HB862 to transfer the Pacific Int. Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) under the University of Hawaii. This change will allow PISCES to continue to conduct its research, economic development and outreach programs without disruption for the benefit of communities throughout the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris Yoakum

Kea'au, HI