



Written Statement of  
**Len Higashi**  
Acting Executive Director  
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation  
before the  
**Senate Committee On Ways and Means**  
Wednesday, February 17, 2021  
10:00 a.m.  
Videoconference

In consideration of  
**SB935, SD1**  
**RELATING TO AEROSPACE.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee.

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) offers **comments** on SB935, SD1 that establishes the Office of Aerospace Development in the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation instead of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and repeals the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems and transfers the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems to the Office of Aerospace Development.

HTDC supports the intent of this measure to expand the role of aerospace in Hawaii. HTDC agrees that aerospace has huge economic development potential and the state possesses many inherent competitive advantages. HTDC comments that while the industry has huge potential, the cost of establishing a substantial footprint in Hawaii will likely be accordingly high. The sector will require appropriate resources to develop. HTDC defers to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism on the potential efficiencies gained by restructuring. HTDC looks forward to working with all stakeholders in moving aerospace forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



## 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  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [dbedt.hawaii.gov](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**MIKE MCCARTNEY**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

Wednesday, February 17, 2020  
10:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of  
**SB 935, SD1**  
**RELATING TO AEROSPACE.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent and provides comments on SB 935, SD1, which establishes the Office of Aerospace Development in the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC), repeals the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems, and transfers the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems to the Office of Aerospace Development.

Office of Aerospace Development (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. As the focal point in state government and in aerospace endeavors, establishment of OAD in HTDC will need funds to continue its work.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



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**  
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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 Ways and Means  
Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 10:00  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of  
**SB935 SD1**  
**RELATING TO AEROSPACE**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee:

I am writing to appreciate the intent of this Bill, and refer to DBEDT's comments on the bill.

Aerospace is an industry growing at a rapid pace, NASA's Artemis program is creating a high demand for the development of new technologies, materials and processes that will help advance the return to the Moon.

Hawaii has the opportunity to participate in this growing industry by taking advantage of its geographical location that makes it an ideal site for equatorial launch of small satellites and for space tourism. It's geological landscape and resources makes it a highly desirable location for companies involved in planetary surface development.

The Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) is currently engaged in various aerospace related projects. It is important to provide continuation to this work so as to not lose the opportunities to develop these economic development opportunities in the Aerospace Industry. Whether as a direct attached agency of DBEDT, or under a unified aerospace office within HTDC, funding will be required to allow this work to continue.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.

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

**SB-935-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/12/2021 6:34:32 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl B.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

OPPOSE

Anything to do with Aerospace (if we must have it here) should be paid for by the Feds /US Military. Our island dollars should not be used for any of those activities.