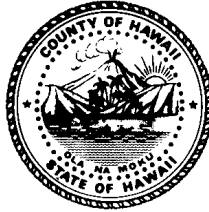


County of Hawai'i
Council District 9 -
North and South Kohala



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Chair: Committee on Regenerative
Agriculture, Water, Energy, and
Environmental Management

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III
HAWAII COUNTY COUNCIL
DISTRICT 9

25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

April 6, 2021

Committee on Economic Development

Representative Sean Quinlan, Chair
Representative Daniel Holt, Vice Chair

Submission via online testimony

RE: Support of S.C.R. No. 236, S.D. 1
Hearing Date/Time: April 7, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Dear Senators:

As the sitting Council Member for Hawai'i County Council District 9, North and South Kohala, as well as the Chair of the Committee on Regenerative Agriculture, Water, Energy, and Environmental Management for the Hawai'i County Council, I submit **testimony in SUPPORT of S.C.R. No. 236, S.D. 1.**

Hawai'i successfully hosted the 2011 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Honolulu, and in efforts to revitalize our economy, I hereby support urging President Biden and APEC to hold the 2023 APEC Summit in the State of Hawai'i, but more specifically on the Island of Hawai'i.

Some attributes that would accommodate such magnitude on Hawai'i Island include the Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport having capacity to house Air Force One and other dignitary aircraft, a strong military presence at Pōhakuloa, and an ample supply of large, high-end resort facilities and accommodations on the Kohala Coast. Holding 10 of the world's 14 identified climatic zones, Hawai'i Island would be an ideal location for our neighboring countries to experience and realize our economic drivers of agriculture and diversified renewable energy resources.

Hawai'i must continue to be competitive in efforts to host world-class events such as this, as it provides long-term positive economic impacts that Hawai'i can benefit from going forward. Therefore, your support of this measure is critical during such a time as this. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

HERBERT M. "TIM" RICHARDS, III



Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākāua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii-tourism-authority.org

David Y. Ige
Governor

John De Fries
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
JOHN DE FRIES

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, April 7, 2021
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312
via videoconference

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 236, SD1

Chair Quinlan, Vice Chair Holt, and members of the Committee on Economic Development: the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** SCR236, SD1, which urges United States President Joe Biden and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to hold the 2023 APEC summit in the City and County of Honolulu, Hawai'i.

This conference, which brings together the heads of state from 21 countries in the Asia-Pacific region thousands of foreign diplomats, and support staff and media members from around the world, would give Hawai'i's visitor industry a much-needed boost as our state recovers from the devastating economic impacts of COVID-19.

Having successfully hosted APEC in 2011 and the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2016, Hawai'i and the Hawai'i Convention Center established their ability to host large international meetings and conventions. Both of these events brought positive economic impacts and the lasting brand awareness that events of this magnitude bring. Hosting summits of this size and importance helped to spread the message that Hawai'i is not only a vacation spot, but it is also a world-class meeting and convention destination capable of hosting events of this caliber.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of SCR236, SD1.

SCR-236-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2021 10:52:43 AM

Testimony for ECD on 4/7/2021 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglass S. Adams	Department of Research and Development, County of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Quinlan, Vice-Chair Holt, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development,

Thank you for your consideration of this Concurrent Resolution that urges President Biden and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation to convene the 2023 APEC Summit in Hawaii. The 2011 APEC Summit was a demonstrable success and bodes very well for Hawaii to once again support the important work the Summit will address.

I also encourage the Committee to consider the opportunity for the County of Hawaii to serve as host for the Summit, perhaps in partnership with the City and County of Honolulu. Alternatively, the Concurrent Resolution might be amended to include all Counties by urging the convening of the 2023 APEC Summit in the State of Hawaii.

Nonetheless and most importantly, I respectfully request that the Committee forward the Concurrent Resolution to the House with a strong recommendation for passage.

respectfully,

Douglass S Adams