



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Friday, April 8, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

By
Bonnie Irwin
Chancellor
University of Hawai'i at Hilo

GM 797 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems, Gubernatorial Nominee, AMBER IMAI-HONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on GM 797 in support of the confirmation of Amber Imai-Hong to the Board of Directors for the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES).

Ms. Imai-Hong has been with the Hawai'i Space Flight Laboratory for the past 10 years as an Avionics Engineer Outreach Specialist. Ms. Imai-Hong is a product of Hawai'i island and graduated from the UH Mānoa with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with a specification in Electrophysics.

Ms. Imai-Hong is a fine example to other Hawai'i island students, in particular women, who want to pursue a career in STEM fields. Her membership on the PISCES Board of Directors will strengthen PISCES current initiatives for engaging students across the state in activities and programs that foster growth in STEM.

We strongly support the confirmation of Ms. Imai-Hong to this appointment.

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 6:28:38 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqui Hoover	Testifying for Hawaii Island Economic Development Board	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB), it is my privilege to strongly support the nomination of Ms. Imai Hong to the PISCES Board of Directors. We have worked closely with her on a number of programs and projects related to aerospace and community outreach & education. We admire her mentorship of students from middle school through university level and the positive influence she has on students, as well as, her knowledge and experience. Mahalo for allowing us to speak in support of this nomination for which we humbly seek your approval.

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/5/2022 2:26:16 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rodrigo Romo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to present testimony in strong support of Amber Imai as a member of the PISCES Board. Amber is an amazing young engineer from the Big Island who has accomplished tremendous projects involving the construction of low cost cube sats that are affordable to kids of all ages.

Her enthusiasm and knowledge in Aerospace would make her a very valuable asset to the PISCES Board.

Mahalo nui

Rodrigo Romo

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 7:19:55 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sandy Ryan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of consideration and confirmation to the Board of Directors of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems, Gubernatorial Nominee, AMBER IMAI-HONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Report Title:

Board of Directors of the
Pacific International Space
Center for Exploration
Systems

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 7:58:08 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Annette Lynch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the nomination of Amber Imai Hong to the Board of Directors of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems. I know Amber to be well qualified, passionate about her career and a great contributor to the space community. Mahalo.

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/6/2022 9:21:32 PM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Osa Tui, Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Speaking as an individual, Amber is nothing but dedication personified and is an excellent choice for this board. It has been my pleasure to see her blossom from a determined and hard-working student into a compassionate and selfless adult working with students and giving back. She will make an excellent PISCES board director and I wholeheartedly support her confirmation.

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 9:08:33 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leilani Ventura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of GM797 to consider and confirm to the Board of Directors of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems, Gubernatorial Nominee, AMBER IMAI-HONG, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.

Mahalo!

GM-797

Submitted on: 4/7/2022 9:22:41 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/8/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amber Hardwick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Gubernatorial Nominee, AMBER IMAI-HONG as Member of the Board of Directors of the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems.