



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

by

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HB 1478 HD1 – MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i stands in support of HB 1478 HD1.

Its passage is an important step in moving forward with Hawai'i's participation in the FAA-authorized Pan Pacific UAS Test Range Complex (PPUTRC), part of a national effort created by Congress to advance the “state of the art” of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) in service to the economy.

Just as important, UAS are rapidly becoming an important component in the University of Hawai'i's educational and community outreach missions. Our PPUTRC partner states Alaska, Oregon and Mississippi are currently enjoying commercial UAS business, as well as government and educational benefits – by capitalizing on the emerging UAS opportunity.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.