SCR 143 SD1 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM AND APPLIED RESEARCH LABORATORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE SAFE, LEGAL, AND BENEFICIAL USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS IN HAWAI‘I.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Quinlan, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai‘i (UH) is in support of SCR 143 SD1, which seeks to address the safe and legal operation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in Hawai‘i.

The requested collaboration between the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism and the Applied Research Laboratory at the University of Hawai‘i brings to bear a wide range of disciplines, businesses, agencies – as well as direct links to timely national-level UAS policy developments, that can provide the Legislature with a well-considered and well-balanced view on value, promotion and control of this emergent technology.

Recent discussions between the Federal Aviation Administration and UH on the increase of UAS misuse in the state underscores the need of this UAS working group.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.