



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
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by

Dr. Donald Straney, Ph.D.
Chancellor, University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HB 2872 HD3 SD1 – RELATING TO AEROSPACE HIGH TECHNOLOGY DISTRICTS

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo supports the concept of HB 2872 HD3 SD1, which authorizes the establishment of an aerospace high technology district in Hilo. This measure also provides tax incentives to qualified businesses.

The University feels that aerospace is just one of several economic sectors that would benefit from similar treatment. The bill identifies the park as lying within three (3) miles of the Hilo Airport and at a specific tax map key location; these are different locations. The University would not support transferring part of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo campus for this use.

The University of Hawai'i wants to clarify that the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center in Hilo is not a technology park but a museum and was not funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as stated in the committee report (SSCR 2997).

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.