



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
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by
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HB 1967 HD1 – RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. We support HB 1967 HD1 that appropriates funds for a program coordinator and technical support staff member to complete the necessary planning required for an international flight training center and associated aeronautical training programs at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo and Hawai'i Community College.

Following the approval of SB 1221 in 2013, we engaged a program coordinator to complete the necessary studies and planning for the programs' implementation.

Based on his research, he wrote two Authorization to Plan (ATP) documents to support the implementation of SB 1221. These ATP are in the final process of revision before being forwarded to the University of Hawai'i Council of Chief Academic Officers (CCAO).

This program will prepare students for this high level of academic and practical training. This proposal will help address the future needs of our island economy. UH Hilo views our partnership and collaboration with Hawai'i Community College and other community college campuses as an important component in being able to successfully provide higher education and career options to the people of our Hawai'i Island. This program will also attract foreign students and provide a positive economic impact on the State of Hawai'i and the University of Hawai'i University system

We support HB 1967 HD1 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 1967 HD1. Aloha.