



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

TESTIMONY

S.B. 2392, S.D. 2

RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS
TO ASSIST HIGH TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on
Economic Development and Business Concerns

March 15, 2004

by

Ramsey Pedersen
Chancellor, Honolulu Community College
University of Hawai'i

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Chair Schatz and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 2392, S.D. 2 relating to the issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to Assist High Technology Industrial Enterprises.

In addition to its campus on Dillingham Boulevard, Honolulu Community College (HCC) operates education and training facilities on Sand Island Access Road, Lagoon Drive, at Honolulu International Airport, and Hangar 111 at Kalaeloa Airport, the former Barbers Point Naval Air Station. HCC conducts the only FAA certified aircraft maintenance training school in the Pacific at Honolulu International Airport. In partnership with the University of North Dakota, HCC students receive FAA certified commercial flight training at Kalaeloa Airport.

Honolulu Community College in partnership with the University of New Mexico and the University of Alaska, develops and tests unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) in the national airspace system through corridors between each location. This partnership, through a funded Department of Defense contract, also develops local test flight capabilities with ingress and egress routes at Kalaeloa Airfield. The proposal is to conduct UAV operations in a portion of HCC's hangar, which was acquired when the Navy closed the naval air station. In addition to the flight school, part of the hangar is currently occupied

by the College of Engineering at the University of Hawai'i, who is involved on a research project to improve Navy airborne radar equipment.

As a major aviation stakeholder at Kalaeloa, HCC supports the economic benefits to our community that can be accomplished through cooperation with the aviation industry. We believe the partnership to develop a UAV industry will present opportunities for our aviation students to participate in research, operations, maintenance on UAV's and other related technologies. Part of the proceeds from the Special Facility Revenue Bonds would be used to improve the north end of Hangar 111 to meet the needs of UAV effort.

We urge your favorable action on Senate Bill 2392, SD2.