



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM

## TESTIMONY

S.B. 3165 RELATING TO ENHANCING ECONOMIC DIVERSITY

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Science, Arts, and Technology  
and  
Senate Committee on Economic Development

February 10, 2004

by

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

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S.B. 3165 Relating to Enhancing Economic Diversity

Chairs Ige, Fukunaga, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of Senate Bill 3165 to provide \$100,000 for a feasibility study of a Kalaeloa Technical Park. The University recognizes the untapped economic potential and strategic importance of Kalaeloa. We currently have a hangar and dormitory building at Kalaeloa and believe that the area has significant potential for training, education, and commercial development.

Base closures in other states have resulted in a combination of research, training, and business development. Honolulu Community College, the Research Corporation of the University, and the College of Engineering of UH-Manoa currently have aerospace research and training activities at Kalaeloa. Honolulu Community College's Commercial Aviation program trains pilots on site in partnership with the University of North Dakota and is also working through its Apprenticeship Training Program to provide housing for potential apprentices to be trained at a center being developed by the Carpenters Union.

We believe the combination of an airfield and available land should be utilized for expanded economic activity. The creation of a Technology Park requires significant coordination, planning, and marketing to attract clients. It is appropriate that the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism initiate a study to determine the feasibility of creating such an environment for innovative technology groups.