Testimony Presented Before the Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs Senate Committee on Education

on

Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 1:15 p.m.

bν

Donald O. Straney, Ph.D. Chancellor, University of Hawai`i at Hilo

SCR 156 URGING THE CREATION OF AN EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE TO

CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION TRAINING CENTER AT THE HILO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND AN ADVANCED AVIATION DEGREE TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT HILO

Chairs English, Tokuda, Vice Chairs Espero, Kidani and Members of the Committees:

We support the intent of SCR156. Hawai'i is dependent on aviation for transportation and business and at present there is no aviation baccalaureate (4-year degree) program in the state. This resolution calls for a study that would permit us to explore and design a program that we could bring forward for further consideration.

To this end, we support this resolution and would be very willing to participate in an exploratory committee to examine the feasibility and needed resources for establishing a training program.

Thank you for this opportunity to support this resolution. Mahalo.