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by
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SB1256 RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR EXPLORATION SYSTEMS

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

My name is Donald Straney, Chancellor of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UHH). We support the intent of SB1256 to fund the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) to manage and facilitate its work to expand and diversify technology-based enterprises and education in Hawai'i.

This proposal will help to stimulate the growth of our State economy through aerospace research, the development, testing and evaluation of new technologies that support the exploration of space and the creation of new careers. UH Hilo views the proposal as an opportunity to collaborate with PISCES to provide higher education and career options to the people of our Hawai'i Island.

We support SB1256 provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB1256. Aloha.