



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
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by
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SB 2585 – 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 (UH Hilo). We support the intent of SB 2585 to fund the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) to support administrative and general tasks, strategic program initiatives, and the preliminary development of the PISCES research and development park.

This proposal will help to expand and diversify economic and workforce development opportunities throughout the State by promoting the establishment and growth of new sustainable and green industries, internships, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education programs. 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 SB 2585 provided its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities in our BOR approved budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 2585. Aloha.