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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEES ON WAYS AND MEANS
Thursday, February 26, 2015
9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
in consideration of
SB 661, SD 1
RELATING TO UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS TEST SITES.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and Members of the Committee.

The department strongly supports, with amendments, the intent of this bill to establish the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site chief operating officer position to serve on the Pan-Pacific Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range Complex (PPUTRC) management team, as well as an advisory board to oversee unmanned aerial systems test site operations.

We recommend the following amendments to the current bill draft:

- (1) On page 5, lines 6 and 7, delete “to be appointed by the governor pursuant to section 26-34.”
- (2) On line 8, replace “One member representing the department of defense” with “The adjutant general of the department of defense or his/her designee.”
- (3) On lines 9-10, replace “One member representing the department of transportation” with “The director of the department of transportation or his/her designee.”
- (4) On lines 11-12, replace “One member representing the department of business, economic development, and tourism” with “The director of the department of business, economic development, and tourism or his/her designee.”

- (5) On line 13, replace “One member representing the University of Hawaii” with “The president of the University of Hawaii or his/her designee.”
- (6) On lines 14, replace “One member representing the Hawaii business community” with “One member, appointed by the governor pursuant to section 26-34, representing the Hawaii business community.”
- (7) On lines 16-17, replace “Two members representing the aerospace or aviation industries” with “Two members, appointed by the governor pursuant to section 26-34, representing the aerospace and aviation industries.”
- (8) On page 8, lines 1-3, delete section (10).

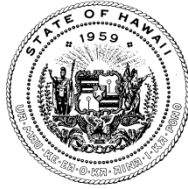
In addition, although the current bill draft designates that funding provided through this legislation shall be expended by the University of Hawaii, the Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee (which includes three representatives from the University of Hawaii System) recommends that this funding be appropriated to DBEDT (through its Office of Aerospace Development, BED 128), which in turn would work with the Hawaii UAS test range team that OAD currently manages (including representatives from the Department of Transportation, the Department of Defense, the University of Hawaii, the U.S. Pacific Command, and Hawaii’s commercial aerospace sector), as well as the University of Alaska and State of Oregon PPUTRC representatives (with whom OAD is coordinating this tri-state program), to facilitate the hiring of a chief operating officer and formulation of a UAS test range advisory board.

As such, we recommend replacing current bill references to Chapter 304-A, Hawaii Revised Statutes (relating to the University of Hawaii), with references to Chapter 201 (relating to the Office of Aerospace Development).

We support this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 26, 2015
9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

S.B.661, SD1
RELATING TO UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS TEST SITES

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Department of Transportation **supports** this bill, which creates a Chief Operating Officer (COO) and staff for the Hawaii segment of the Pan Pacific UAS Test Range Complex (PPUTRC), as well as a Board of Advisors.

In addition, the DOT respectfully suggests amending the bill to reflect that the funding of the program be appropriated to the Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) through its Office of Aerospace Development (OAD). The OAD currently manages the Hawaii UAS test team, consisting of representatives from the State of Hawaii DOT, Department of Defense, the University of Hawaii, the U.S. Pacific Command, and Hawaii's commercial aerospace sector. The OAD is also the coordinator with representatives of Hawaii's partners, the University of Alaska and the State of Oregon. The OAD represents expertise, continuity and a smooth transition to the hiring of a COO, and the formation of a UAS advisory board through this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

SB661

Submitted on: 2/24/2015

Testimony for WAM on Feb 26, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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