



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of

LUIS P. SALAVERIA

Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Monday, April 04, 2016

2:00 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of

HB 2263, HD1, SD1

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent to conduct an economic assessment study on the development and viability of a small satellite processing and launch facility on the island of Hawaii.

Recent advances in the miniaturization of satellite components, standardization of many satellite parts, and related factors have made the building, launch, and operation of small satellites ("smallsats") technologically feasible and increasingly economical, which in turn is fueling a broad range of innovative applications utilizing smallsats related to space science, in-orbit technology testing and demonstration, and earth observation.

As noted in this legislation, Hawaii's unique mid-Pacific, near-equatorial location provides a cost-effective site from which to launch payloads into orbit. The proposed economic assessment study would provide an analysis of the opportunities this industry holds for Hawaii, as well as a roadmap for leveraging Hawaii's competitive advantages in commercial space launch.

We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of
Piilani Kaawaloa
Aha Moku Advisory Committee – Moku O Keawe (Hawaii)

Before the Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

Monday, April 4, 2016
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

**In Consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2263 HD 1 SD 1
RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

House Bill 2263 HD 1 appropriates funds for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct an economic assessment study on the development and economic viability of a small satellite launch and processing facility on the Island of Hawaii.

The Aha Moku acknowledges the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.

While the measure states that the development of a small satellite launch and processing facility on Hawaii Island may have economic potential for Hawaii Island and for the State of Hawaii, it does not state specifically where plans for this launching facility may be. In the past twenty years, there have been attempts and plans to establish satellite and launching facilities in the Moku of Ka'u where it was deemed to be the best place for such a facility. The area identified in Ka'u is the site of the most sacred wahi pana. It is the site where the first Tahitians landed in Hawaii prior to the 9th century. It is as sacred to Hawaiians as Mauna Kea.

And, if plans do not include Ka'u, then no site has been identified and no comments may be given.

In testimony in past Legislative Committees, Aha Moku initially opposed the measure for the reasons stated above. However, we do support the Senate committee report 2947 submitted by the members of the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology; and, Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs who have amended this measure by requiring the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct a feasibility study in conjunction with the Office of Aerospace Development, the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems and the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, Inc. The Legislature has also encouraged the participation of the Aha Moku. We do wish to participate, and would like to be part of the feasibility study.

We thank the Legislature for requiring a feasibility study as well as giving us the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: Leimana.K.Damate@hawaii.gov
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2263 on Apr 4, 2016 14:00PM
Date: Saturday, April 02, 2016 5:53:59 AM
Attachments: [HB 2263 HD1 SD1 AMAC-PK 04-04-16 WAM.docx](#)

HB2263

Submitted on: 4/2/2016

Testimony for WAM on Apr 4, 2016 14:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Piilani Kaawaloa	Aha Moku Advisory Committee	Comments Only	No

Comments: House Bill 2263 HD 1 appropriates funds for the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct an economic assessment study on the development and economic viability of a small satellite launch and processing facility on the Island of Hawaii. The Aha Moku acknowledges the intent of this measure and offers the following comments. While the measure states that the development of a small satellite launch and processing facility on Hawaii Island may have economic potential for Hawaii Island and for the State of Hawaii, it does not state specifically where plans for this launching facility may be. In the past twenty years, there have been attempts and plans to establish satellite and launching facilities in the Moku of Ka'u where it was deemed to be the best place for such a facility. The area identified in Ka'u is the site of the most sacred wahi pana. It is the site where the first Tahitians landed in Hawaii prior to the 9th century. It is as sacred to Hawaiians as Mauna Kea. And, if plans do not include Ka'u, then no site has been identified and no comments may be given. In testimony in past Legislative Committees, Aha Moku initially opposed the measure for the reasons stated above. However, we do support the Senate committee report 2947 submitted by the members of the Senate Committees on Economic Development, Environment, and Technology; and, Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs who have amended this measure by requiring the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to conduct a feasibility study in conjunction with the Office of Aerospace Development, the Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems and the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, Inc. The Legislature has also encouraged the participation of the Aha Moku. We do wish to participate, and would like to be part of the feasibility study. We thank the Legislature for requiring a feasibility study as well as giving us the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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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