



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Monday, March 9, 2020
2:45 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room #414

In consideration of
HB 1912, HD1
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR
EXPLORATION SYSTEMS.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism appreciates the intent of HB1912, HD1, which establishes the Pacific International Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) within the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism for administration purposes. The measure amends the composition of the board of directors of PISCES, creates six exempt positions, and transfers the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the employees to DBEDT.

DBEDT supports the bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact the priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Pacific International
Space Center for
Exploration Systems

Statement of
Rodrigo Romo
Program Director
Pacific International Space Center for Explorations Systems (PISCES),
Before the
Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Monday, March 9th @ 14:45
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In consideration of
HB1912-HD1
**RELATING TO THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SPACE CENTER FOR EXPLORATION
SYSTEMS**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee.

PISCES appreciates the intent of HB1912 HD1, which establishes the Pacific International Center for Exploration Systems (PISCES) within the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism for administration purposes. The measure amends the composition of the board of directors of PISCES, creates six exempt positions, and transfers the rights, powers, functions, and duties of the employees to DBEDT and offers the following comments:

PISCES is entering a transition period in which it will need to make some modifications to move from RCUH contract based operations into being an attached agency of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). This bill makes the necessary adjustments and modifications that will make this possible and allow the program to continue to operate into the future. We support this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comments.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Romo".

Rodrigo Romo.
Program Director
PISCES

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 11:06:19 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judi Morris	Testifying for Oceanit Laboratories, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

Dr. Luke Flynn
94-1115 Hahana Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

Dear Members of the 30th Hawaii State Legislature:

I am writing to express my strong **SUPPORT** for **HB1912 – Relating to Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems**.

In 1992, I graduated from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a PhD in Geology & Geophysics. I have lived in Hawaii for 34 years and raised two children here who also graduated from UH. I am now a professor in the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and Planetology (HIGP). Throughout my research career, I have managed 26 external grants and contracts worth approximately \$50M or an average of \$1.9M/year since graduation. A very high proportion of these funds are used to support faculty co-Investigators, staff, and students that have all supported the State economy. Since 2002, I have been the Director of the NASA Hawaii Space Grant Consortium (HSGC) and the NASA Hawaii EPSCoR Programs. The function of HSGC is to provide STEM education and NASA workforce development opportunities in Hawaii. The function of NASA Hawaii EPSCoR is to expand aerospace research infrastructure within the State. Finally, since 2007, I have been the Director of the Hawaii Space Flight Laboratory (HSFL). HSFL's objective is to design, build, test, launch, and operate small spacecraft from the Hawaiian Islands. On November 3, 2015, HSFL's first launch from the Pacific Missile Range Facility did not achieve orbit. However, there were a lot of successes. The rail launch system worked perfectly. The world took notice that Hawaii can become a space-faring State, and the world took notice that our local students built a satellite that passed all tests for space flight.

The PISCES program provides opportunities for business development and workforce training in space applications. The PISCES program is especially important for the Big Island, and I have worked and continue to work with PISCES on space-related opportunities for the State of Hawaii. I strongly support the PISCES program, and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year. I strongly support this bill.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Dr. Luke Flynn

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/5/2020 3:16:19 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amber Imai-Hong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/5/2020 3:26:12 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Chun	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/5/2020 4:33:27 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David S. De Luz, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modification to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 9:18:26 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Humphries	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The PISCES program is a vital part of the science and technology community here on Hawai'i. Their commitment both to developing new industrial applicaitons for our local builders as well as to supporting our hau'mana is critical to Hawai'i. Please ensure this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure the continuation of PISCES after this year.

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 9:53:18 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert P. Mueller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

“ I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill”.

PISCES is known for its excellent work in aerospace technology development especially basalt materials sintering and space analog testing.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Mueller

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 10:04:56 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mari-Ela David Chock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I would like to express my deep support of the PISCES program. As a former employee (2013-2015), I can personally attest to not only the importance of the work that PISCES conducts, but more importantly, the collective intellectual capital and expertise that the PISCES team brings. The STEM opportunities for youth, particularly in education and workforce development, that PISCES offers on Hawaii Island are invaluable. Furthermore, PISCES is the only aerospace agency on Hawaii Island, helping bring much-needed diversity to our local economic portfolio. As such, I highly support this bill, which makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year.

Mahalo,

Mari-Ela David Chock, Waimea (Kamuela) resident

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 10:20:35 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harriet Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.

Mahalo

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 1:15:30 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerry Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.

PISCES is an integral part of Hawaii's Aerospace Ecosystem. Supporting this ecosystem represents the best opportunity for Hawaii to create high paying jobs in science and technology for our children.

Please support passage of this bill.

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 1:59:29 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
austen drake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.

Sincerely,

Austen Drake

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 2:18:43 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandy Ryan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator Wakai, Senator Taniguchi and members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,

As a member of the State's Hawaii Aerospace Advisory Committee, I support the PISCES program. PISCES is an integral component of Hawaii's growing the aerospace/aviation sector, creating economic development and the opportunity for jobs creation.

HB1912 makes the necessary modifications to ensure the continuation of PISCES after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.

Thank you for your continued support of Hawaii's Aerospace and Aviation sector!

Respectfully,
Sandy Ryan

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 2:24:35 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michaela Musilova	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill.

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 3:03:34 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kim Binsted	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program. This bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year. Therefore, I support this bill.

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/6/2020 3:43:35 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Dowd	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I enthusiastically support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year. The initiatives that the PISCES program support are critical for the continued STEM education of our keiki and valuable opportunities for local businesses, industry investment, as well as Federal investment such as NASA.

Working for a global IT company, we are particularly interested in programs such as the PISCES STARS summer program that focus on STEM education for high school girls and this curriculum and experience cannot be found anywhere else in the world.

This is a "must-pass" bill for the future of Hawai'i.

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/7/2020 9:38:26 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/8/2020 10:57:18 AM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nyra Dee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the PISCES program and this bill makes the necessary modifications to ensure its continuation after this transition year, therefore I support this bill. Thank you.

LATE

PISCES has been an asset to the community especially for the our community college. They have created opportunities for my students both present and past. The loss of PISCES not only would impact our students but the state of Hawaii. The technologies that PISCES help develop improves the lives of average people. The idea of interplanetary travel is a project that will develop technologies that will move people across the solar system and those technologies will also be used in some form here on this planet . This is great publicity for Hawaii. Hawaii will become the central hub for the new Space Command. Should we not be involved in technology? Technology is at our door and not much can stop it. Funding is significant in the success of companies like PISCES. I would ask that we not “bury our heads in the sand” but realize the future is here. The opportunities for our students would diminish and the opportunities for Hawaii would as well.

LATE

HB-1912-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 7:22:48 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/9/2020 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl B.	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

What is this Pacific International Space Center and how does it tie to the different military establishments, the push for TMT and the telescopes on Haleakala? Why are we using our monies for something that is obviously for the USA govt. and their defense? Why do we keep paying for everything out of state monies? How will the average citizen benefit from this? Will it be like current space studies where they are working on the cushions of Adidas shoes? Spend our money on our people and land.