

MAR 14 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE CREATION OF AN EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL AVIATION TRAINING CENTER AT THE HILO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND AN ADVANCED AVIATION DEGREE TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO.

1 WHEREAS, the mission of the University of Hawaii at Hilo
2 has evolved and expanded in recent years from a principally
3 undergraduate teaching institution to one with a significant
4 research focus on science, technology, engineering, and
5 mathematics; and

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7 WHEREAS, the State's economic development goal of
8 encouraging an innovation-based economy relies on workforce
9 proficiencies in science, technology, engineering, and
10 mathematics and requires that students have broad opportunities
11 to learn the advanced skills necessary to succeed in a more
12 complex society; and

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14 WHEREAS, Hilo International Airport is an ideal location
15 for a world class flight training center because it is located
16 in one of the most ideal flight training environments in the
17 country, which includes but is not limited to the following:

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19 (1) Two runways;
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21 (2) Air controller and radar facilities;
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23 (3) Varied weather conditions throughout the year;
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25 (4) Minimal commercial and military aircraft; and
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27 (5) Ample space for the construction and expansion of
28 facilities on the current airport property; and
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1 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Hilo is located less
2 than six miles from the airport; and
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4 WHEREAS, an aviation program will assist in the
5 diversification of the State's economy and provide an
6 opportunity to gain a reputation as a world class training
7 center servicing the Pacific Rim and beyond; and
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9 WHEREAS, a world class aviation program will attract
10 students from all over the world to become aircraft pilots,
11 obtain an advanced technical education, and prepare for the
12 aviation field of the twenty-first century; and
13

14 WHEREAS, a world class aviation program will offer Hawaii's
15 residents and students access to technical and professional
16 career programs in aviation and support for existing airlines
17 based in Hawaii by offering them the opportunity to hire pilots
18 that are residents of and trained in Hawaii; and
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20 WHEREAS, a world class aviation program will complement
21 existing aviation maintenance training activities by building a
22 foundation for broader aviation education services and enhancing
23 the State's economic development and income benefits in
24 diversifying the State's economic development image; and
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26 WHEREAS, given the importance of aviation to Hawaii and the
27 anticipated increase in aviation in the Pacific Rim in the next
28 decade, the State and the University of Hawaii at Hilo have an
29 opportunity to provide training to Hawaii's citizens which will
30 prepare them for prestigious high paying professional careers as
31 professional pilots; and
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33 WHEREAS, with the rapid growth of Hawaii's Pacific routes
34 from Asia and the continuing development of trade and travel
35 between Hawaii and China, the vast market potential for students
36 and future pilots is exponential, and being on the forefront of
37 this surge is paramount; and
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39 WHEREAS, after nearly a four-year drought of job openings,
40 the airline industry is on the brink of what is predicted to be
41 the biggest surge in pilot hiring in history; and
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1 WHEREAS, Boeing has forecast a need for 466,650 more
2 commercial pilots by 2029 which is an average of 27,450 new
3 pilots a year; and
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5 WHEREAS, nearly forty percent of the openings will be
6 needed to meet the soaring travel market in the Asia-Pacific
7 region, but more than 97,000 will be in North America; and
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9 WHEREAS, the demand for pilots will be so great that the
10 industry could ultimately face a shortage, sparking fierce
11 competition among airlines across the globe vying for candidates
12 qualified to fill cockpits; and
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14 WHEREAS, funding through public-private partnerships with
15 known and established accredited programs such as Embry Riddle's
16 Worldwide Aeronautical University, Federal Aviation
17 Administration grants, and support from the business and private
18 sectors of the local and international community in conjunction
19 with the State and the University of Hawaii Hilo offer the
20 program the best potential for success and implementation; now,
21 therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
25 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is
26 requested to convene a ten-member exploratory committee with two
27 members each representing:
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- 29 (1) The University of Hawaii at Hilo;
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31 (2) The Hilo Community College;
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33 (3) The Department of Transportation Hilo Airport
34 Division;
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36 (4) The Hawaii County Office of Research and Development;
37 and
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39 (5) The Hawaii aviation community, who will provide the
40 technical expertise on aviation in Hawaii and
41 implementation of the program and be selected from a
42 list of Federal Aviation Administration licensed Part
43 121 commercial aviation pilots that hold a current



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1 airline transport type rating, fly class one medical,
2 and operate aircrafts in Hawaii; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exploratory committee is
5 requested to examine the feasibility and necessary resources of
6 establishing an international aviation training center at the
7 Hilo International Airport and an advanced aviation degree
8 training program at the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the exploratory committee is
11 requested to report its findings and recommendations, including
12 any budget requests and proposed legislation, to the Legislature
13 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
14 Session of 2013; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chancellor
18 of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, Chancellor of the Hawaii
19 Community College, President of the University of Hawaii System,
20 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii,
21 Mayor of the County of Hawaii, Hawaii County Director of the
22 Office of Research and Development, and the District Office
23 Manager of the Federal Aviation Administration's Hawaii
24 airports.
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OFFERED BY:

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