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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS TEST SITES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a national  
2 need to safely integrate unmanned aerial systems into the  
3 national air space. The integration of unmanned aerial systems  
4 flights into the national air space will generate commercial  
5 potential of this technology, estimated to be worth more than  
6 \$13,600,000,000 during the first three years of integration and  
7 more than \$82,000,000,000 between 2015 and 2025, and create  
8 approximately 103,776 new jobs by 2025.

9           The legislature further finds that Hawaii offers many  
10 unique qualities to support unmanned aerial systems operations  
11 including: expansive over-water areas unencumbered by other  
12 aviation uses; proximity to the United States Pacific Command,  
13 which is projected to be a significant user of future unmanned  
14 aerial systems; opportunities for joint operations with Kauai's  
15 Pacific missile range facility; and opportunities for long-range  
16 point-to-point tests with partner ranges in Alaska and Oregon.  
17 Hawaii's proposed test ranges link to military and restricted  
18 areas used for current unmanned aerial systems operations.



1 These sites include the Pohakuloa training area on the island of  
2 Hawaii, Bradshaw and Wheeler Army airfields, and Kauai's Pacific  
3 missile range facility. Test points within the ranges will be  
4 used to support shore-and ship-based development, testing and  
5 certification of new unmanned aerial systems, training and crew  
6 certification of operational unmanned aerial systems, and  
7 development of expanded and joint capabilities involving  
8 existing communications systems and operations tactics using  
9 unmanned aerial systems. The proposed Hawaii ranges have  
10 provided an important focus for the development of scientific  
11 applications of unmanned aerial systems, including numerous test  
12 flights.

13 The legislature additionally finds existing and potential  
14 civilian uses of unmanned aerial systems are wide-ranging,  
15 including emergency search and rescue operations; wildfire  
16 detection and management; fisheries management; agricultural  
17 monitoring; reef health surveys; hazardous spills monitoring;  
18 dam and reservoir overflow detection; tsunami damage surveys and  
19 assessment; algal bloom detection and mapping; air quality  
20 monitoring; motor vehicle traffic management; lava flow  
21 monitoring; aerial photography for mapping; disaster management



1 and damage assessment; power line monitoring; flood and  
2 pollution control; land use surveys; watershed management;  
3 wildlife tracking; geographical, geological, and archaeological  
4 surveys; atmospheric monitoring for commercial airline  
5 turbulence avoidance; and light detection and ranging mapping of  
6 coastal topography to detect beach erosion. In developing these  
7 applications, innovative research, business, and education  
8 opportunities will emerge, including the development of  
9 miniaturized, high performance remote sensing instruments;  
10 unmanned aerial systems tracking systems, including command and  
11 control hardware and software; training courses and  
12 certification programs for unmanned aerial systems operators;  
13 and education programs for potential users of unmanned aerial  
14 systems technologies.

15 The legislature also finds that in 2012, the United States  
16 Congress directed the Federal Aviation Administration to  
17 establish unmanned aerial systems research programs at six  
18 national test sites for the development of unmanned aerial  
19 systems operating standards and regulations. Hawaii, in  
20 partnership with Alaska and Oregon, submitted a tri-state  
21 proposal to establish the Pan-Pacific Unmanned Aerial Systems



1 Test Range Complex and was designated by the Federal Aviation  
2 Administration as one of the six national test site operators,  
3 providing the tri-state team six months to organize and  
4 implement the Pan-Pacific Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range  
5 Complex. The University of Alaska has established a board of  
6 directors to support performance of the management team and is  
7 establishing a Pan-Pacific Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range  
8 Complex management team, to include a chief operating officer  
9 from all three states.

10 The purpose of this Act is to establish a Hawaii unmanned  
11 aerial systems test site chief operating officer position to  
12 serve on the Pan-Pacific Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range  
13 Complex management team, establish a Hawaii unmanned aerial  
14 systems test site advisory board that will formulate an  
15 implementation plan and oversee test site development in the  
16 State, and appropriate funds for personnel and procurement costs  
17 associated with establishing the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems  
18 test site.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended by adding a new section to part V to be appropriately  
21 designated and to read as follows:



1           "§201- Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site advisory  
2 board; established. (a) There is established a Hawaii unmanned  
3 aerial systems test site advisory board, as a subcommittee of  
4 the Hawaii aerospace advisory committee, to oversee the planning  
5 and operation of the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site.

6           (b) The board shall be composed of seven members, to be  
7 appointed by the governor pursuant to section 26-34, as follows:

8           (1) One member representing the department of defense;

9           (2) One member representing the department of  
10 transportation;

11           (3) One member representing the department of business,  
12 economic development, and tourism;

13           (4) One member representing the University of Hawaii;

14           (5) One member representing the Hawaii business community;  
15 and

16           (6) Two members representing the aerospace or aviation  
17 industries.

18           Each board member shall serve for a term of four years;  
19 provided that the initial terms shall be staggered, as  
20 determined by the governor.



1        (c) Members of the board shall not receive compensation  
2 for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary  
3 expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the performance  
4 of their duties under this section."

5        SECTION 3. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
7 and to read as follows:

8        "§304A- Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site chief  
9 operating officer. There is established within the University  
10 of Hawaii the position of chief operating officer who shall  
11 manage the operations of Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems test  
12 site. The chief operating officer shall:

- 13        (1) Monitor, oversee, and recommend operations of unmanned  
14 aerial systems test site activities;  
15        (2) Facilitate opportunities for public and private use of  
16 unmanned aerial systems test site facilities;  
17        (3) Assist unmanned aerial systems test ranges;  
18        (4) Leverage aerospace and related technological  
19 capabilities in the State's academic, public, and  
20 private sectors to support testing and evaluation at  
21 Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems test ranges;



- 1        (5) Promote innovative education and workforce development
- 2            programs to enhance public awareness of the benefits
- 3            and opportunities that unmanned aerial systems
- 4            technologies and applications can bring to the State;
- 5        (6) Monitor national and global trends in unmanned aerial
- 6            systems development and testing, and recommend
- 7            policies and programs to advance unmanned aerial
- 8            systems testing in Hawaii;
- 9        (7) Establish and maintain a public website with updated
- 10           information on the program and provide information on
- 11           the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site
- 12           initiative;
- 13        (8) Contract for services and implement agreements,
- 14           subject to chapter 103D, as may be necessary to
- 15           conduct operations at Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems
- 16           test ranges;
- 17        (9) Serve as Hawaii's representative on the Pan-Pacific
- 18           Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range Complex management
- 19           team;



1       (10) Participate as an ex officio member of and report to  
2       the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site advisory  
3       board; and

4       (11) Submit an annual report no later than twenty days  
5       prior to the convening of each regular session, which  
6       shall include the status of work, expenditures, and  
7       trends regarding Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems test  
8       site.

9       The chief operating officer shall be subject to chapter 84  
10      and may employ on a full-time basis one administrative assistant  
11      for Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems test site operations and  
12      activities."

13           SECTION 4. Section 84-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14      amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

15           "(c) The following persons shall file annually with the  
16      state ethics commission a disclosure of financial interests:

17           (1) The governor, the lieutenant governor, the members of  
18           the legislature, and delegates to the constitutional  
19           convention; provided that delegates to the  
20           constitutional convention shall only be required to  
21           file initial disclosures;





- 1           (2) The directors and their deputies, the division chiefs,  
2           the executive directors and the executive secretaries  
3           and their deputies, the purchasing agents and the  
4           fiscal officers, regardless of the titles by which the  
5           foregoing persons are designated, of every state  
6           agency and department;
- 7           (3) The permanent employees of the legislature and its  
8           service agencies, other than persons employed in  
9           clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;
- 10          (4) The administrative director of the State, and the  
11          assistants in the office of the governor and the  
12          lieutenant governor, other than persons employed in  
13          clerical, secretarial, or similar positions;
- 14          (5) The hearings officers of every state agency and  
15          department;
- 16          (6) The president, the vice presidents, assistant vice  
17          presidents, the chancellors, ~~[and]~~ the provosts, and  
18          the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site chief  
19          operating officer of the University of Hawaii and its  
20          community colleges;



- 1           (7) The superintendent, the deputy superintendent, the
- 2           assistant superintendents, the complex area
- 3           superintendents, the state librarian, and the deputy
- 4           state librarian of the department of education;
- 5           (8) The administrative director and the deputy director of
- 6           the courts;
- 7           (9) The members of every state board or commission whose
- 8           original terms of office are for periods exceeding one
- 9           year and whose functions are not solely advisory;
- 10          (10) Candidates for state elective offices, including
- 11          candidates for election to the constitutional
- 12          convention, provided that candidates shall only be
- 13          required to file initial disclosures; and
- 14          (11) The administrator and assistant administrator of the
- 15          office of Hawaiian affairs."

16           SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general

17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so

18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and

19 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal

20 year 2016-2017 for the purpose of staffing and operating

21 Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems test site activities.



1           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
2 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

3           SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5           SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

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**Report Title:**

Public Safety; Unmanned Aerial Systems; Test Site; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Hawaii unmanned aerial systems test site chief operating officer position to, among other things, serve on the Pan-Pacific Unmanned Aerial Systems Test Range Complex management team. Establishes an advisory board to oversee and manage unmanned aerial systems test site operations. Appropriates funds to staff and operate Hawaii's unmanned aerial systems test site activities. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

