



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
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HB 1910 HD2 – RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 1910 HD2. The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) writes in strong support of this bill which promotes development and adoption of renewable and sustainable aviation fuels. These fuels are essential to Hawai'i's continuing economic vitality, while simultaneously providing solutions for global climate change challenges.

This bill establishes a sustainable aviation fuels program in the High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) and appropriates funds for grants to businesses in Hawai'i developing sustainable aviation fuels and (or) complementary technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the aviation sector.

Although UH Hilo will not obtain funds directly from this program, nor does it currently expect to be collaborating with companies that are near-term recipients of these HTDC grants, we applaud the Legislature for its leadership in supporting renewable fuels, greenhouse gas reduction technologies, and innovation in Hawai'i.

UH Hilo's College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resource Management (CAFNR) seeks to expand applied research and educational programs in the bioeconomy (renewable, sustainable fuels and chemicals) that create economic development and career opportunities for Hawai'i's people while accelerating adoption of environmentally beneficial technologies for Hawai'i and the Tropics. Aviation fuel is a primary target, due to its central importance to Hawai'i's well-being, current greenhouse gas emissions, and new technologies that enable bio-based fuels with superior performance.

We join the Legislature in the common goal of advancing renewable, sustainable aviation fuels for the environment's and Hawai'i's benefit.

We support this bill, and thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.