

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center

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HB 2028, HD 2, SD 1 SCR 2430

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR A SPACE PORT IN HAWAII

Statement for Senate Committee on Ways and Means Public Hearing - March 24, 1988

By
Jacquelin Miller, Environmental Center
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HB 2028, HD 2, SD 1, would provide funds for environmental and technical studies necessary for site selection and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a launching facility in Hawaii.

Our statement on this bill does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

The current language of HB 2028 HD 2, SD 1, reflects amendments made earlier to broaden the purpose of the funds so as to include their use for environmental and technical studies pertinent to site selection as well as the preparation of the EIS. We concur with these amendments and the intent of this bill.

Environmental studies are essential to site selection and the development of a space port/launching facility. Considering the geographic location of the proposed facility and the competance of the faculty of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, we suggest that the Department of Business and Economic Development be encouraged to utilize the expertise and facilities of UH Hilo in carrying out the proposed environmental studies. Participation by other institutions or researchers, as necessary, is equally important to assure the comprehensiveness and quality of the results.

We have seen no description of the magnitude, scope, location or time schedule for the project, hence we have no comment on the specific dollar amount of the appropriation.

A Unit of Water Resources Research Center