## SENATOR MIKE GABBARD $21^{ST}$ DISTRICT

KAPOLEI, MAKAKILO, KALAELOA, AND PORTIONS OF FERNANDEZ VILLAGE AND EWA



## The Senate Ka 'Aha Kenekoa

STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813

June 3, 2025

<u>CHAIRMAN</u>

AGRJCULTURE & ENVIRONMENT

MEMBER JUDICIARY

MEMBER GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

To the NASA EPSCoR ISS Flight Opportunity Review Committee,

As a representative of the State of Hawai'i and an advocate for STEM innovation and sustainability, I'm pleased to provide this letter of support for undergraduate researcher Shelby Dixon's proposal titled "Autonomous, Low-Power AI System for Plant Health Monitoring in Space and Resilient Agriculture," submitted for the 2025 NASA EPSCoR ISS Flight Opportunity.

This proposal reflects Hawai'i's commitment to advancing technology that serves both local communities and global challenges. Shelby's project addresses critical issues such as resource-efficient agriculture, climate resilience, and autonomous system design with relevance in both microgravity research and Earth-based applications.

While this letter does not represent a financial or technical commitment, I am pleased to express my support for the project's mission and Shelby's leadership as an emerging researcher working to represent Hawai'i at the national level.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Mike Gabbard

State Senator, District 21