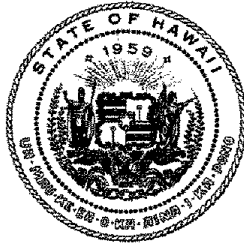


STATE OF HAWAII
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MARION M. HIGA
State Auditor

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DEPT. COMAL NO. 18

February 1, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Madam President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Sunrise Analysis: Mixed Martial Arts*.

Mixed martial arts events are currently permitted under an exemption from the prohibition against extreme fighting. Legislation introduced in 2006 proposes to license these events as their own sport, similar to the regulation of boxing. We concluded that regulation is warranted to protect contestants from injury and the public from potential harm. We also concluded that both the current statute and the proposed 2006 legislation should be strengthened for more effective regulation and that regulation should be placed with the director of commerce and consumer affairs.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Friday, February 2, 2006.

Sincerely,

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c: ✓Carol Taniguchi, Senate Clerk