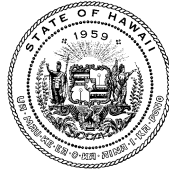


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
COMPTROLLER  
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DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2021, 9:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 1015, S.D. 1

RELATING TO THE COMPTROLLER.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of S.B. 1015, S.D.1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) has recognized that teleworking during the pandemic has resulted in some significant successes, and we have already begun the process of re-assessing space needs and leasing decisions for the post-pandemic future in DAGS managed facilities. The DAGS supports this bill's intent. This legislation implies expansion of the Comptroller's responsibilities to assess and determine office space requirements for all State agencies, not just those that are DAGS-managed. This also implies that leasing services would similarly be expanded to cover all leases for all State agencies, and not just specific executive branch agencies.

The DAGS manages roughly 1% of the entire State building inventory, or 99 of over 10,000 buildings. Each State agency who manages their own buildings has their own facility management protocol in place. Consolidation of this level of administrative oversight is beyond the current capacity of the DAGS-Public Works Division (PWD), which would need additional

resources to address this initiative. This initiative will require dedicated resources to oversee and have authority for statewide space management and leasing oversight. This statewide effort may take several years to implement even after full staffing is realized, as the unique requirements of each agency to comply with their mandated program requirements would have to be identified and included in the statewide space management plans. The DAGS-PWD will have to prioritize the greatest opportunities to relocate or right-size work office spaces.

Additionally, this bill needs to enable the DAGS with the authority over departments and programs to execute recommendations to reduce or right-size current office spaces based on teleworking and social distancing requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.