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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
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before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 23, 2022
10:40 am
State Capitol, Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

In consideration of
HCR 110/HR 106
**REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND
DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-STATE
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.**

Chair Gates, Vice Chair Tam, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) offers the following comments to HCR 110/HR 106 that requests the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate and develop recommendations for the initiation of a sister-state relationship with the City of Auckland, New Zealand.

HRS [§229-1] defines a sister state or province relationship to mean a relationship between the State of Hawaii and the state or province or similar governmental or political subdivision of a foreign nation.

This definition precludes Hawaii from entering into a sister “state” relationship with Auckland, which is a city.

While Auckland, New Zealand has sister city relationships with several cities worldwide, it does not have one with a state. There currently exists no sister state relationship between Auckland and another U.S. state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.