

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
465 S. King Street, Room 500
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-2917



DEPT. COMM. NO. 71

MARION M. HIGA
State Auditor

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May 1, 2009

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 *2008 Annual Report*.

In 2008, we found serious problems with the State's stewardship of its valuable environmental resources and also how it supports and encourages new businesses to the islands. In these tough economic times, with declining revenues and shrinking budgets, the need for accountability and oversight is greater than ever. As we make clear in this report, my office will remain committed to its principles of objectivity, thoroughness, and fairness, and we will continue to ask the tough questions as we carry out our audits and other work.

We will place the report on our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and release it to the public and press, on Monday, May 4, 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marion M. Higa".

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c:/Carol Taniguchi, Senate Clerk