

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of

THEODORE E. LIU

Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

before the

Support

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, February 10, 2009 9:00 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of

HB 1197

RELATING TO ALCOHOL FUELS.

Chair Morita, Vice Chair Coffman, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) has concerns about the constitutionality of HB 1197, which would establish a preference for locally produced alcohol fuels.

It is our understanding that this type of preference would be considered to interfere with interstate commerce and therefore would be subject to challenge in Federal court.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.