

TOURISM LIAISON

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Statement of

MARSHA WIENERT Tourism Liaison

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, CULTURE & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Monday, February 2, 2009 8:30 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HB 1472
RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY.

Chair Manahan, Vice Chair Tokioka and Members of the House Committee on Tourism, Culture and International Affairs.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism is offering comments on HB 1472, for clarification purposes only.

HB 1472 makes various amendments, with most of them changing the title of the existing executive director to president and chief executive officer. We defer to the Department of Human Resources Development to comment on the position's title.

Our concern is with Section 3 of the measure, as it deletes from Section 201B-7 (a),
Hawaii Revised Statutes, the need to report on contracts or agreements valued at \$25,000 and
over to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate.

The amended language states that the authority is to periodically report contracts and agreements
entered into by the authority with no dollar amount affixed. We suggest that the word

periodically be further defined and that having to report all contracts and agreements of any size may be overly burdensome to the authority.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 1472.