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Testimony of Lloyd Unebasami

Interim President and Chief Executive Officer Hawai'i Tourism Authority

H.B. 684

Relating to the Hawai'i Tourism Authority

House Committee on Tourism, Culture & International Affairs Monday, February 2, 2009 8:30 a.m. Conference Room 312

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) opposes H.B. 684 which proposes to make permanent HTA budgetary controls in effect on January 1, 2008, and allows changes to those controls only with legislative approval.

H.B. 684 authorizes HTA to adopt internal budgetary rules, procedures, and controls to expend funds, provided that any rule or procedure in place as of January 1, 2008, shall remain in effect unless amended with legislative approval. The purpose of adopting internal policies and procedures is to provide consistency and order in an office setting for efficient and effective operations. If legislative approval is necessary to amend these internal policies and procedures, this will create an ineffective and inefficient process.

As such, the HTA believes that H.B. 684 should be held. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.