

A S S O C I A T I O N

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TESTIMONY OF MURRAY TOWILL PRESIDENT HAWAI'I HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION February 2, 2009

RE: HB 755 Relating to the Hawaii Tourism Authority

Good morning Chair Manahan and members of the House Committee on Tourism, Culture & International Affairs. I am Murray Towill, President of the Hawai'i Hotel & Lodging Association.

The Hawai'i Hotel & Lodging Association is a statewide association of hotels, condominiums, timeshare companies, management firms, suppliers, and other related firms and individuals. Our membership includes over 170 hotels representing over 47,300 rooms. Our hotel members range from the 2,523 rooms of the Hilton Hawaiian Village to the 4 rooms of the Bougainvillea Bed & Breakfast on the Big Island.

The Hawai'i Hotel & Lodging Association supports HB 755 Relating to the Hawaii Tourism Authority. This measure would remove the sunset provision from the some of the administrative powers of the HTA.

We urge you to pass this bill. Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.