

# STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 17, 2010

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

#### TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 195 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 128

REQUESTING A COST-BENEFIT STUDY TO DETERMINE WHETHER LEASING INCOME CAN BE MAXIMIZED FROM AIRPORT AND HARBOR SPACE THROUGH THE USE OF RETAIL LEASING AGENTS

#### COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation (DOT) offers the following comments on these resolutions requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a cost benefit study to determine whether airport and harbor revenues can be better maximized by contracting leasing agents to handle the leasing of state lands.

Both the Airports and Harbors Division have property management staff responsible for the leasing or rental of airport and harbor properties. As the study is to include an estimate of the cost savings if this function is undertaken by private contractors, implementation issues as to how this public service currently performed by state employees will be delivered through the private sector should also be assessed in the study.

As the leasing of State lands is subject to various state laws, such as Chapters 102, 171 and 343, HRS, the study should also discuss how statutory requirements and processes would be addressed if leasing functions are turned over to private consultants.

Provided the scope of the study is expanded to address the foregoing comments, we feel that a study could serve as a useful management tool to assist the department in improving the delivery of services by the most cost-efficient means possible.

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#### Written Testimony

#### **HCR195**

## REQUESTING A COST-BENEFIT STUDY TO DETERMINE WHETHER LEASING INCOME CAN BE MAXIMIZED FROM AIRPORT AND HARBOR SPACE THROUGH THE USE OF RETAIL LEASING AGENTS

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau Ken H. Takayama, Director

Presented to the House Committee on Transportation

Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 9:00 a.m. Conference Room 309

Chair Souki and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on House Concurrent Resolution No. 195, which directs the Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) to conduct a study to determine whether leasing income can be maximized from airport and harbor space through the use of retail leasing agents.

The Bureau takes **no position** either for or against the measure, but submits the following comments and concerns:

- 1. As always, if the Legislature wants us to do this study, we will do it to the best of our ability with the resources we have.
- 2. The study requested is not so much a matter of policy as it is one of operations of commercial leasing personnel in the private and public sectors.
- 3. We do not know whether the considerations that would go into leasing commercial space in airports are similar to or very different from harbors. The more varied those considerations are, the broader the scope of the study would be.
- 4. A potentially significant issue in this matter, however, is the issue of privatization. A need to cover this issue could substantially expand the scope of this study.
- 5. Accordingly, if this measure is to pass, we request that it be amended to exclude the issue of privatization.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.