

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

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SCOTT T. NAGO CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

TESTIMONY OF THE

CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER, OFFICE OF ELECTIONS

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

ON SENATE BILL NO. 2400, HD 1

RELATING TO FUNDS

March 31, 2010

Chair Oshiro and members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 2400, HD 1. The purpose of this bill is to appropriate money in FY 2010 for the Office of Elections.

The Office of Election is in strong support of this bill. The two amounts requested are required immediately to fund critical election operations for both the May 22nd Special Election to fill the vacancy in Congressional District I, as well as the 2010 Primary and General Elections.

The amount of \$250,000 is necessary to address budget shortfalls in FY 2009 that did not permit the Office of Elections to make various expenditures for goods and services in preparation for the 2010 elections that are to occur during FY 2011. These expenditures include, but are not limited to, election day logistical supplies, election day office supplies, data processing supplies, phone service between polling places and control center, ballot transport and delivery services, printing and assembling of poll books, travel for training and site inspections, Elections Commission travel for hearings, postage for election materials, and software licenses. The inability to purchase said items will result in the inability to conduct the 2010 Elections.

The remaining \$140,000 is necessary to pay the City & County of Honolulu for its assistance in conducting the special vacancy election. This includes technical support services for the City's mail ballot sub-system, training, and staff for the accessible voting walk sites as required by the Federal Help America Vote Act.

Thank for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

TESTIMONY BY GEORGINA K. KAWAMURA DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE STATE OF HAWAII TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON SENATE BILL NO. 2400, S.D. 1, PROPOSED H.D. 1

March 31, 2010

RELATING TO FUNDS

Senate Bill No. 2400, S.D. 1, Proposed H.D. 1, appropriates \$250,000 in general funds for an emergency appropriation for the 2010 regular elections and \$140,000 in general funds to reimburse the City and County of Honolulu for costs associated with the special election to fill the vacant United States House of Representatives Congressional seat.

We support this bill. A memorandum from the Governor requesting the bill's immediate passage is forthcoming.