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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION REGARDING HB 801, HD 1 PROPOSED HD 2 RELATING TO TAXATION

TESTIFIER:

COMMITTEE:

FREDERICK D. PABLO, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE) FIN MARCH 2, 2011 12:00PM

POSITION:

DATE:

TIME:

SUPPORT

This measure clarifies the Department of Taxation's (Department's) subpoena authority for civil and criminal investigations. Specifically, the bill clarifies HRS § 231-7 in the followings ways:

- It clarifies that the Department has the power to subpoena witnesses and require production of records for purposes of conducting civil or criminal inquiries, investigations or hearings.
- It clarifies that the Department may require production of electronic records.
- It clarifies that compliance with a Department-issued subpoena shall not give rise to a civil action for damages on the part of the individual so compelled by the subpoena.

The Department supports this measure. The Department believes that the clarity offered by this bill will help it more effectively achieve its goal of administering the State's tax laws fairly, consistently and uniformly.