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LATE TESTIMONY

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION REGARDING HB 475 RELATING TO TAXATION

TESTIFIER:

FREDERICK D. PABLO, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF

TAXATION (OR DESIGNEE)

COMMITTEE:

ERB

DATE:

FEBRUARY 8, 2011

TIME:

MA8

POSITION:

CONCERNED WITH COSTS

This measure provides a temporary income tax credit for manufacturing and exporting products from Hawaii to jurisdictions outside Hawaii.

The Department of Taxation (Department) <u>supports the intent</u> of this measure; however has <u>concerns with this measure's revenue loss</u>.

THIS MEASURE IS EFFECTIVE ECONOMIC POLICY—The Department supports that this measure focuses on manufacturing and subsequent importing of products. Increasing the State's export ratio benefits the economy by infusing it with revenues from outside the State. The Department defers to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism on the economic impact of this measure.

THERE IS ALREADY A GET BENEFIT—Currently, taxpayers that export goods or services are not subject to the 4% general excise tax on their gross receipts. At a time when the budget is operating at a projected deficit, the existing general excise tax benefit should be sufficient.

WHAT IS A "DOMESTIC" ENTITY—It is unclear what a "domestic" entity is. Assuming it is Hawaii-only entities, this could create constitutional issues.