LATE TESTIMONY

NEIL ABERCROMBIE

RICHARD C. LIM



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: Fax: (808) 586-2355 (808) 586-2377

Statement of

RICHARD C. LIM Interim Director

Department of Business Economic Development and Tourism before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

March 2, 2011 10:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of

HCR 11 / HR 12

URGING THE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII TO INVITE ALL APEC COUNTRIES TO ESTABLISH HONORARY CONSULS IN HAWAII AHEAD OF THE 2011 APEC SUMMIT.

Chair Awana, Vice Chair Hashem and Members of the House Committee on International Affairs.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports HCR 11 / HR12, urging the Governor of Hawaii to invite all APEC countries to establish honorary consuls in Hawaii ahead of the 2011 APEC Summit.

Currently, eight of the 21 economies are represented by a consulate or honorary consul in the State of Hawaii. DBEDT agrees that urging the thirteen economies that are not currently represented in Hawaii to establish a presence, through an honorary consul, would strengthen Hawaii's relationship with the APEC economies.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of this bill.