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

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

Statement of **RICHARD C. LIM** Director Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

> Thursday, February 21, 2013 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 211 in consideration of

SB750. SD1 **RELATING TO DIGITAL MEDIA INFRASTRUCTURE.**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) offers comments on SB750, SD 1, which introduces a new non-refundable credit equal to 25 percent of the qualified costs for qualified digital media infrastructure projects, specifically in West Oahu or the most populous island in a county with a population of 100,000 to 175,000.

While new infrastructure development is necessary for increasing statewide growth of Hawaii's film industry, limiting the scope of the credit to two specific communities to the exclusion of other counties in the State is not something DBEDT is able to support. We recommend consideration of a feasibility study, as requested in the department's CIP budget to best determine the size, scope and location of a digital media complex.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



RICHARD C. LIM DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS DEPUTY DIRECTOR