

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 218

February 3, 2015

RELATING TO ORDER OF SUCCESSION

Senate Bill No. 218 provides for the order of succession to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor when it becomes vacant.

The Department of Budget and Finance opposes the bill because it shares the same concern as House Bill No. 1288 from the 2014 Legislature that was intended. As detailed in Governor's Message No. 1304, Statement of Objections, dated July 8, 2014, on House Bill No. 1288, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1, Relating to Order of Succession, this bill also does not provide for succession when the Office of the Governor becomes permanently vacant at the same time as the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and the Senate President and the Speaker of the House belong to a political party different from the Governor. In this instance, there would be no one to appoint a member of the same political party as the Governor to be Lieutenant Governor.