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EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

> TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2007, H.D. 1

> > February 24, 2016 3:00 p.m.

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

House Bill No. 2007, H.D. 1, adds a new part to Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to establish a lean government advisory board to make recommendations for improving State government efficiency. The advisory board would consist of the Director of each principal department as enumerated in Section 26-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and a member (who is familiar with lean principles) appointed by the Governor, and would be placed administratively within the Department of Human Resources Development.

The Department of Budget and Finance supports the general intent of improving government efficiency and effectiveness; however, we do not believe it necessary to codify the establishment of an advisory board for that purpose.

If a lean government advisory board is statutorily established, it should be noted that successful implementation will take time and more than likely require additional resources to plan and implement. HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO



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The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii The House of Representatives Committee on Finance



Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 24, 2016

H.B. 2007, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO offers comments and suggested amendments to H.B. 2007, H.D. 1, which establishes a Lean Government Advisory Board to make recommendations to improve state government efficiency. State government is still recovering from the Great Recession and the subsequent reduction-in-force that occurred in 2009.

While efficiency is important, effectiveness is more important. The services provided by state government must be able to resolve public policy issues effectively and deliver those services in an efficient manner. However, without sufficient personnel resources, it is difficult for state government to perform effectively and efficiently.

With respect to the Lean Government Advisory Board, we suggest including not just department directors, but members from the exclusive representatives of the various collective bargaining units. Employees and their unions know how state government is currently operating and can identify ways of improving program effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2007, H.D. 1 with the suggested amendments.

espectfully submitted, Randv Perreira

Executive Director