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Statement of LUIS P. SALAVERIA Director Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

Friday, February 10, 2017 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of HB 975 RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Business.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of HB 975 which creates an advisory council for global economic competitiveness of fifteen or more knowledgeable representatives to recommend policy, so long as it does not displace Administration priorities.

DBEDT estimates that funding in the sum of \$150,000 for each year of the upcoming biennium is necessary to implement this bill and undertake the tasks specified.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

February 9, 2017

Dear Chairman Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

The Organization for International Investment (OFII) appreciates the opportunity to comment on HB 975. We support this bill because an advisory council would create a platform where the private sector, academia, economic developers, and government can work together to create a plan that would enhance Hawaii's global economic competitiveness.

OFII is a business association representing the U.S. subsidiaries of foreign-headquartered companies (U.S. subsidiaries), including many Hawaiian employers like BNP Paribas, the parent of First Hawaiian Bank; BAE Systems; Syngenta and BASF (full membership list attached). OFII advocates for policies that increase America's competitiveness in attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) and which provide fair and non-discriminatory treatment.

U.S. subsidiaries bring high-value economic activities to the United States. These companies employ 6.4 million U.S. workers, account for over 20 percent of U.S. manufacturing jobs, produce over 26 percent of U.S. exports, and fund over 17 percent of U.S. research and development activities.¹ These U.S. subsidiary jobs pay salaries that are 30 percent higher than the economy-wide average. In Hawaii, U.S. subsidiaries employ 37,000 state residents. These FDI jobs account for 7.3 percent of the state's private sector workforce, ranking Hawaii 5th in the nation in the percentage of its private sector workforce attributed to FDI.

Hawaii also benefits from exports. Over 860 Hawaii businesses export and almost 90 percent of these exported goods are from small or medium-sized business.² This economic activity supports almost 6,200 jobs.

Hawaii has clearly benefitted from its openness to the global economy. HB 975 would mark a positive step forward in helping Hawaii further compete for international investment and grow exports. Collaborative policymaking with the full consultation of businesses, employees, think tanks, economic developers, and other community stakeholders is essential to a healthy, predictable, and sustainable economic growth strategy.

For these reasons, OFII urges the Committee to vote for HB 975.

For any additional questions, please contact Evan Hoffman, Director of State Government Affairs at <u>ehoffman@ofii.org</u> or (202) 659-1903.

¹ All statistics in this paragraph are the latest data from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) released October 2016 regarding the U.S. subsidiaries of foreign headquartered companies

² All statistics in this paragraph are the latest available data from the office of the U.S. Trade Representative; https://ustr.gov/map/ustrade/hi

Sincerely,

Nancy McLernon President & Chief Executive Officer Organization for International Investment

ORGANIZATION for INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT Global Investment Grows America's Economy

OFII is the only business association in Washington D.C. that exclusively represents U.S. subsidiaries of foreign companies and advocates for their non-discriminatory treatment under state and federal law.

ABB Inc. Ahold Delhaize Airbus Group, Inc. Air Liquide USA Akzo Nobel Inc. Alibaba Group Allianz of North America Anheuser-Busch APG APL Limited Arup Astellas Pharma US, Inc. AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals AVANGRID, Inc. **BAE Systems** Balfour Beatty Barrick Gold Corp. of North America **BASF** Corporation Bayer Corp. **BBA** Aviation Beam Suntory **BHP** Billiton BIC Corp. Bimbo Bakeries USA bioMérieux **BNP** Paribas Boehringer Ingelheim Corp. Bombardier Inc. BOSCH BP Braskem Bridgestone Americas Holding ΒT Bunge Ltd. Bunzl USA, Inc. CEMEX USA CGI Group Chubb **CNH** Industrial Compass Group USA Continental Corporation Credit Suisse Securities (USA) Daiichi Sankyo, Inc. Daimler Dassault Falcon Jet Corp. **Dassault Systemes** DENSO Deutsche Telekom Diageo, Inc. Direct Energy Doosan DSM North America **Electrolux North America** EMD Serono Inc. Enel Green Power North America ENGIE E.ON North America Ericsson

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