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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

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TESTIMONY OF RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2017 9:05 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 016

S.B. 886

RELATING TO LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 886.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) strongly supports this measure and offers the following comments for your consideration.

Currently, §78-23(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires the Employee's Designation of Beneficiary Form to be written, notarized, and filed with the comptroller or another disbursing officer who issues warrants or checks to pay an employee for the employee's services. This requirement has resulted in thousands of forms being maintained in a central location at DAGS. Maintaining the forms, which includes manually filing forms alphabetically for new employees, filing updated forms for current employees, and purging forms of employees no longer

employed with the State, is extremely labor intensive. By having the forms kept by the employing department, this form, along with other payroll and personnel forms, would routinely be discarded when no longer required.

The State is in the process of implementing a new payroll system that may be able to maintain beneficiary information entered by the employee. Section 78-23(c), HRS, is also being amended to eliminate the requirement that the form be written and notarized, which will allow the new system to maintain the most current beneficiary information in an electronic format.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.