Mar 21, 2018, 11:15 am

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## Statement of LUIS P. SALAVERIA Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Thursday, March 22, 2018 10:20 am State Capitol, Conference Room 429

## in consideration of SB 2887, SD1 RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Chair LoPresti, Vice Chair Fukumoto, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports SB 2887, SD1 appropriating funds relating to the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hawaii-Taiwan Sister State relationship.

The business, cultural, educational and historical ties between Taiwan and Hawaii are numerous and longstanding. Since the signing of this sister state agreement in 1993, the State of Hawaii has established a trade and investment office in Taipei. This office has helped to reinforce exports of Hawaii's products and services to Taiwan, and investments from Taiwan.

The Taiwan-Hawaii relationship is important from an economic development standpoint. DBEDT supports building these relationships through cultural, educational and business exchanges supported by the Sister State agreement.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

RECEIVED **Date & Time** Mar 21, 2018, 11:17 am

<u>SB-2887-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/21/2018 10:22:33 AM

Testimony for VMI on 3/22/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: