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STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Thursday, January 30, 2020
2:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

On the following measure: H.B.1882, RELATING TO NONDEPOSITORY TRUSTS

Chair Takumi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Iris Ikeda, and I am the Commissioner of Financial Institutions of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Division of Financial Institutions (DFI). The Department supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to establish provisions concerning nondepository trust companies, including: (1) powers and duties of nondepository trust companies; (2) paid-in-capital and surplus requirements for nondepository trust companies; and (3) annual assessments for nondepository trusts beginning July 1, 2021.

The Department supports the bill's establishment of standards for nondepository trust companies, as these companies can provide fiduciary oversight for consumers who do not have friends or family members to manage their assets or whose assets do not qualify for asset management by banks or large investment firms. Chartered nondepository trust companies would provide a safe and sound alternative to kupuna and other individuals unserved or underserved in Hawaii's community.

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For the Committee's information, the DFI would charter, supervise, and examine nondepository trust companies in the same manner as other financial services loan companies, whether depository (e.g., banks) or nondepository. In addition, the DFI would be their only regulator, as nondepository trust companies do not have the authority to accept deposits or lend and are therefore not insured by the FDIC.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.