DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on JUDICIARY

Thursday, February 20, 2020 9:15 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of SENATE BILL 3151 RELATING TO EQUAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Senate Bill 3151 proposes to require that restrooms and toilet facilities of public amusement facilities constructed, renovated, retrofitted, or installed after January 1, 2021 have 2 female-use toilets for each male-use toilet or urinal. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources** (**Department**) offers comments on this measure.

- The Department is concerned about the intent between a retrofit versus a replacement of the toilet, sink, faucet, or lighting. For example, would the replacement of a vandalized toilet, creating the opportunity to retrofit, then trigger the mandate to install additional toilets?
- The Department would need to request additional CIP monies for the added stalls that
 would require additional space and required standards such as ADA code and building
 permits. There are currently three restroom projects that are in design and would be
 impacted by this measure.
- The Department also must take into consideration the location areas of these restrooms. The upgrade of additional stalls may not be possible at some state park units due to finite areas to build or expand the current facilities to meet the new requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND CASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

LAND STATE PARKS





February 20, 2020 Rm. 016, 9:15 a.m.

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair

and Commissioners of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission

Re: S.B. No. 3151

The Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai'i's laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state funded services (on the basis of disability). The HCRC carries out the Hawai'i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5.

The HCRC offers comment on S.B. No. 3151

S.B. No. 3151, if enacted, will amend HRS chapter 489, part I, by adding a new section, to require that any pair of separate-gender restrooms or toilet facilities of any public amusement facility constructed, renovated, retrofitted, or installed after January 1, 2021, shall have 2 female-use toilets for each male-use toilet or urinal.

The HCRC has enforcement jurisdiction over complaints of discrimination in places of public accommodation under HRS chapter 489, part I. With the placement of the proposed new statutory section in chapter 489, part I, the HCRC would be assigned enforcement jurisdiction over the statutory new-construction restroom/toilet/urinal requirement.

However, the relief available for failure to comply with the statutory requirement will be limited by the § 489-2 definition of "place of public accommodation," which expressly states: "No place of public accommodation defined in this section shall be requested to reconstruct any facility or part thereof to comply with this chapter." This statutory limitation precludes the remedy of an order to alter newly constructed or renovated facilities that do not meet the restroom/toilet requirements, if those new requirements are placed in HRS chapter 489.