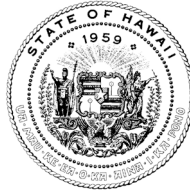


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

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Written Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 200
SENATE RESOLUTION 165

Dear Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) supports the resolutions which requests the Legislative Reference Bureau, Department of Budget and Finance and ETS to identify and eliminate gaps in the tracking of studies, funds appropriated for studies, and submission status of reports. Funding may be needed to support this effort.

ETS looks forward to working with Legislative Reference Bureau. Department of Budget and Finance.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 446
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Written Comments

SCR200

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES TO IDENTIFY AND ELIMINATE GAPS IN THE TRACKING OF STUDIES, FUNDS APPROPRIATED FOR STUDIES, AND SUBMISSION STATUS OF REPORTS.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the Senate Committee on Government Operations

Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 016

Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written **comments** on S.C.R. No. 200, Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau, Department of Budget and Finance, and Office of Enterprise Technology Services to Identify and Eliminate Gaps in the Tracking of Studies, Funds Appropriated for Studies, and Submission Status of Reports.

The purpose of this measure is to request the Legislative Reference Bureau, Department of Budget and Finance, and Office of Enterprise Technology Services to:

- (1) Identify and eliminate gaps in the tracking of studies, funds appropriated for studies, and submission status of reports; and
- (2) Submit a joint report of their findings, actions already undertaken, and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022.

The Bureau takes no position on the merits of this measure but submits the following comments for your consideration.

We note that the Bureau has no specific expertise or particular experience in matters relating to how to create a software program to track requested reports nor do we have sufficient funds to contract for the performance of these services. The Bureau also does not have sufficient resources to allow it to identify the status of pending reports.

As the Committee is aware, section 93-16(a)(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires government agencies to submit a copy of their legislative reports to the Legislative Reference Bureau Library and pursuant to section 23G-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Bureau tracks the *submission* of those reports. After submission, Bureau staff manually catalog each of the hundreds of reports filed each year, summarize each report, assign each report with keywords and other information so the reports may be found in the Legislative Reference Bureau Library's card catalog, and for many recent reports, make each report available for download directly from the Bureau's website.

We note that we received an informal quote from the vendor who recently completed the reconstruction of the Legislative Reference Bureau Library's website on possibly creating such a report tracking module. The vendor quoted a rough estimate of over \$30,000 for the module. This measure effectively asks how to expand the existing tracking system to include the period of time between the Legislature's adoption of a measure requesting a report and the submission of that report to the Legislative Reference Bureau Library. Establishing this tracking system would require additional funding along with additional annual funds to maintain such a system. To illustrate the difficulties in maintaining a tracking system, we note that the CIP Dashboard referenced in the measure has not been functional for the past six months and possibly longer.¹

Collecting the information necessary to respond to this measure would require the Bureau, among other things, to analyze each Act and adopted resolution, determine if each measure requests a report, determine if each Act appropriates funds for a report, cross reference that information with the reports submitted to the Legislative Reference Bureau Library, track potentially non-publicly available information to determine if a report is required,² and, if an entity did not file a requested report, research the reasons why the entity

¹ CIP Dashboard (<http://transparency.hawaii.gov/cip-dashboard/>); archived at Wayback Machine <https://web.archive.org/web/20200922034301/http://transparency.hawaii.gov/cip-dashboard/>; 22 September 2022 (depicting that the CIP Dashboard on September 22, 2020, displayed what appears to be the www.hawaii.gov webpage in the dashboard window instead of actual capital improvement project data).

² For example, Act 70, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016, established a temporary unemployment insurance benefits program, authorized the Governor to modify the program to maximize the receipt of federal funds, and *required the Governor to submit a report to the Legislature if the program was modified*. To track that report, Bureau staff would need to analyze the program and draw a subjective conclusion as to whether the program was modified to determine if a report *should have been filed*.

did not file their report. This addition to the Bureau's current duties and responsibilities would require additional funding and personnel.

If the Bureau is provided with the proper funding, resources, and sufficient technical assistance from appropriate entities to accomplish these tasks, the Bureau believes that the services requested under the measure could be manageable and that the Bureau will be able to provide the services in the time allotted; provided that the Bureau's interim workload is not adversely impacted by too many other studies or additional responsibilities, such as conducting, writing, or finalizing other reports, drafting legislation, or both, for other state agencies, task forces, or working groups that may be requested or required under other legislative measures.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written comments.