

## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of CHRIS J. SADAYASU Director Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

> Wednesday, March 22, 2023 10:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 309

## In consideration of HCR67 / HR 68 URGING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HAWAII AND FUJIAN PROVINCE.

Chair Tam, Vice Chair Martinez and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) <u>offers the following comments</u> on HCR67/HR68 urging the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to recommend the initiation of a sister-state relationship between Hawaii and Fujian Province.

In 2006, the Legislature established the Hawaii Sister-State Committee. Its responsibilities include providing recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor on proposed new sister-state relationships. Accordingly, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee has developed an extensive application process for entities seeking to establish a sister-state relationship with the State of Hawaii. The application requires detailed information on the level of community support in both counties to make the relationship sustainable. After submitting this very comprehensive application for a new sister-state relationship the Sister-State Committee meets and makes a recommendation to the Legislature and the Governor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.