

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

ka 'oihana ho'omohala pā'oihana, 'imi waiwai A ho'omāka'ika'i

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Statement of CHRIS J. SADAYASU Director Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism before the

SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS AND ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 9:45 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of

HCR 160, HD1

URGING THE MAYORS AND COUNCILS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, COUNTY OF MAUI, COUNTY OF HAWAI'I, AND COUNTY OF KAUA'I TO ESTABLISH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS AS SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.

Chairs Wakai and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Elefante and Wakai, and members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** HCR 160, HD1, which urges the Mayors and Councils of the City and County of Honolulu, County of Maui, County of Hawai'i, and County of Kaua'i to establish business improvement districts within their respective counties.

The business improvement districts, also known as special improvement districts, will create economic benefits for their members that cannot be achieved on an individual basis, including capital improvements and business attractions, such as leading marketing campaigns to attract commercial tenants, customers, tourists, and investors. These business improvement districts will bring improved environmental conditions, community benefits, and increased business activity and can have a positive impact on commercial property values.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support.

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs / Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 9:45 A.M. Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

RE: HCR 160 HD1

Aloha Chair Wakai and Decoite, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **generally supports** HCR 160 HD1 which urges the Mayors and Councils of the City and County of Honolulu, County of Maui, County of Hawaii, and County of Kauai to establish business improvement districts.

The Chamber works closely with Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to improve certain strategic locations across the state and make them more economically viable. The State has business improvement districts in Chinatown, Fort Street Mall, and Waikiki on Oahu; Hilo, Hawaii; and Kailua-Kona, Hawaii.

By pooling resources and expertise, businesses can leverage their collective power to support initiatives that would be difficult or impossible to accomplish on an individual basis. This includes marketing and promotion efforts, capital improvements, and the implementation of public safety and security measures.

In addition to the potential economic benefits, BIDs also have the ability to improve the quality of life in the communities they serve. By promoting a clean, safe, and welcoming environment, BIDs can create a more vibrant and enjoyable atmosphere for residents and visitors alike. This, in turn, can lead to increased tourism, job creation, and a stronger local economy.

We believe that the establishment of more BIDs throughout the state would be a significant step towards realizing these benefits.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HCR-160-HD-1 Submitted on: 4/16/2023 4:11:47 PM Testimony for PSM on 4/18/2023 9:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a wast of time and Money. Stop Wasting Time and Money of Crap that is only for your Benifite!!!!!!