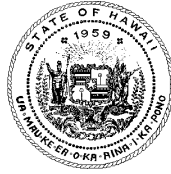


JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

RYAN YAMANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
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STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

Statement of
BRENN A H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
9:30AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
SB724 SD1 RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Garrett, and the members of the committee.

The Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) is in **strong support** and offers the following comments on SB724 SD1.

The purpose of SB724 SD1 is to appropriate funds and authorizes general obligation bonds for the enhancement of technology resources for the Department of Human Resources Development.

DHRD's network infrastructure was last updated in 1994. The department's information technology systems require a digital modernization to support current functions and future improvements. The department's preliminary estimate is that \$2,584,850 is needed for the following:

1. Upgrade information technology systems including network upgrades to CAT 6 to energize all lines, as not all network lines are currently working;
2. Purchase and installation of desktop computers, workstations, and laptop computers; and
3. A minimum of 2 IT Specialist positions for the Information Systems Office.

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



TIME/DATE: 9:30 a.m., March 14, 2023
PLACE: State Capitol Conference Room 309 & Videoconference
COMMITTEE: House Labor and Government Operations
BILL: SB 724, SD2, Relating to the Department of Human Resources Development
POSITION: Support

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Garrett, and members of the committee!

My name is Christine Maii Sakuda and I serve as the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a nonprofit organization that advocates for a more accessible and responsive state government that leverages technology to help citizens, communities, and businesses throughout Hawai'i thrive. In collaboration with state government partners, we strive to keep modernization a top priority. We are writing in **support** of SB 724, SD2, relating to the Department of Human Resources Development. This measure appropriates funds for the enhancement of technology resources for the Department of Human Resources Development.

With the changing needs of our community and our collective desire to be more resilient, we believe we must urgently address our state's aging technology infrastructure. Successfully delivering government services to Hawai'i residents requires investments in people, processes, and technology.

The pandemic showed us that technology underpins virtually every government service and that Hawai'i residents demand broadband access, digital learning, and services when and where needed, provided through state governmental portals. The legislature made a commitment to support the implementation of a new state financial management system, a new unemployment insurance system and other ongoing IT infrastructure improvements to meet these new demands. We can continue this positive momentum to create more bright spots through public-private collaboration. Nowhere are technology infrastructure investments more acute than in the state Department of Human Resources Development which is the foundation for all of our state's government employees who serve Hawai'i. We believe it is critically important to augment any infrastructure investments with resources for training, socialization, and transition planning. Change management is a necessary investment to make technology modernization successful.

Please continue to call upon Transform Hawai'i Government as a resource on government modernization. Through research, data, and in-depth policy recommendations, and resources we wish to support your efforts to make Hawai'i a better place and look forward to working closely with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Sakuda', is written over a light blue circular graphic element.

Christine Sakuda
Executive Director
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