EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS



JUNE 20, 2002

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2568

Honorable Members Twenty-First Legislature State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 2568, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Language Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency."

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 2568 is to create the Hawaii Commission on Language Access within the Department of the Attorney General for administrative purposes. The Commission is to develop a statewide plan to enhance access to services for persons with limited English proficiency, submit its recommendations to the Legislature by December 1, 2003, and dissolve upon adjournment sine die of the 2004 regular session. The Commission is to consist of thirteen members appointed by the Governor. Although Commission members are to serve without compensation, they are to be reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary to perform their duties.

In its original form, this bill included an appropriation for fiscal year 2002-2003 for the Department of the Attorney General to fund part-time administrator and support staff positions and necessary expenses of Commission members.

The conference committee deleted the appropriation from the bill. As a result, this bill will require the Department of the Attorney General to divert staff to administer and support the Commission and to reimburse Commission members for expenses necessary to perform their duties without any additional funding. In short, this bill would divert existing resources of the Department of the Attorney General from other essential tasks.

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For the foregoing reasons, I am returning Senate Bill No. 2568 without my approval.

Respectfully,

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO Governor of Hawaii



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, under Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, the Governor is required to give notice, by a proclamation, of the Governor's plan to return with the Governor's objections any bill presented to the Governor less than ten days before adjournment sine die or presented to the Governor after adjournment sine die of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 2568, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Language Access for Persons with Limited English Proficiency," passed by the Legislature, was presented to the Governor within the aforementioned period; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 2568 is unacceptable to the Governor of the State of Hawaii;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO, Governor of the State of Hawaii, do hereby issue this proclamation, pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, giving notice of my plan to return Senate Bill No. 2568 with my objections thereon to the Legislature as provided by said Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution.

DONE at the State Capitol, Honolulu,

State of Hawaii, this 20

ay of ______, 20

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO

Governor of Hawaii