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**TESTIMONY OF ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA, OMBUDSMAN,  
ON H.B. NO. 2688, H.D. 1, A BILL FOR AN ACT  
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES OF  
THE LEGISLATURE, THE AUDITOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE  
BUREAU, AND THE OMBUDSMAN**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
JANUARY 31, 2008**

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of H.B. No. 2688, H.D. 1, A Bill for an Act Making Appropriations to Provide for the Expenses of the Legislature, the Auditor, the Legislative Reference Bureau, and the Ombudsman.

The Office of the Ombudsman is in strong support of H.B. No. 2688, H.D. 1, which appropriates \$1,060,728 to defray the expenses of the Office in fiscal year 2008-2009. This appropriation reflects the budget requested in my presentation to this committee during the informational briefing on January 3, 2008, and will enable the Office of the Ombudsman to continue its work in serving the people of Hawaii in fiscal year 2008-2009.

Your favorable consideration of this bill would be greatly appreciated. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time.