

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



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**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
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TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
APRIL 9, 2008

H.C.R. 339 and H.R. 280

MANDATING THE CREATION OF A SINGLE WEBSITE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO
STATE EXPENDITURES

Chair Oshiro and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.C.R. 339 and H.R. 280.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of these resolutions that urges the Governor to create a single website that will provide the public access to government expenditures. These resolutions should be amended to specify at what level the expenditure information should be made available. At the accounting detail level, the number of records would be voluminous. These resolutions should also specify that payments to individuals for salaries, unemployment compensation and social services benefits as well as other types of payments that may not be public information need to be protected. DAGS would like to point out that it does not maintain detail expenditure information for the University of Hawaii, Department of Education, and Hawaii Health System Corporation, as well as for funds held outside the state treasury by various departments and agencies. Finally, IT resources to create and maintain this central website need to be appropriated. Estimates of

the amount of appropriations have not been made. DAGS would not support any appropriation that would adversely affect any other programs or projects in the administrative supplemental budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.