

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



RUSS K. SAITO
Comptroller

BARBARA A. ANNIS
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
ON
March 24, 2008

S.B. 2826, S.D. 2, H.D. 1

RELATING TO PROCUREMENT

Chair Herkes and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 2826, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services supports the intent of mandatory training for procurement professionals but opposes this bill because it feels that the Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) is best able to ensure that all aspects of training, including procurement training, are fulfilled.

Chapter 103D-110, HRS already allows the DHRD to work in cooperation with any government body to develop and maintain a comprehensive training and development program for procurement professionals of the state and counties. Under this authority, it may rely on the State Procurement Office (SPO). However, it is not limited to the SPO, as this bill would dictate. The DHRD may also rely on other bodies for procurement training. Specifically, the Hawaii Procurement Institute (HPI) that the legislature created and associated with the University of Hawaii School of Law, as well

as other federal agencies. This offers the potential of much more comprehensive and broad-based training that the state and counties could benefit from.

DAGS recommends that in its current form this bill be held. If this Committee would like to ensure that effective and mandatory training be provided for procurement professionals, DAGS recommends that it be amended to direct the DHRD to achieve its purpose by working with the SPO, HPI, and federal agencies to create a comprehensive training and development program for procurement professionals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.