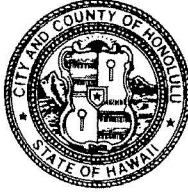


DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FISCAL SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 208 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-3900 • FAX: (808) 768-3179 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov



MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR

RIX MAURER III
ACTING DIRECTOR

MARK K. OTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

February 17, 2009

Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

Subject: HB 1829 – Relating to Economic Stimulus

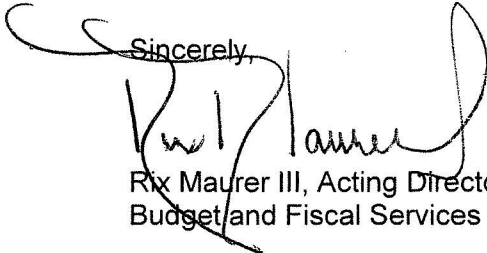
The City and County of Honolulu supports the intent of HB 1829, which directs the State Director of Finance to release funds authorized under the federal economic stimulus plan for county projects within 15 days of receipt of the federal funds.

The authorizations under the federal stimulus program have stringent time constraints which, if not met, may result in the loss of such federal monies. Consequently, the expedited release of the federal funds will help ensure the successful implementation of projects authorized under this emergency program.

We do have two suggested amendments to HB 1829. First, reference to the federal economic stimulus plan should be replaced with "the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009," or the resulting Public Law number, should the President enact the federal legislation prior to HB 1829's approval by the Committee on Finance.

Second, the effective date of HB 1829 must be included as "upon approval," since it is anticipated that federal funding under the act will be distributed to the states and local governments prior to June 30, 2009, and prior to the Legislature's adjournment, sine die.

Your favorable consideration of HB 1829 with the suggested amendments is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rix Maurer III, Acting Director
Budget and Fiscal Services



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA
Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0011
Fax: 808.528.0922

NORA A. NOMURA
Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0003
Fax: 808.528.0922

DEREK M. MIZUNO
Deputy Executive Director
Tel: 808.543.0055
Fax: 808.523.6879

The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Committee on Finance

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 18, 2009

H.B. 1829 – RELATING
TO ECONOMIC STIMULUS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 1829, which directs the State Director of Finance to release funds for county and state projects that are required to match funds the counties and state will receive from the federal stimulus package. These funds must be released within 15 days of receipt of federal funds for county projects and within 30 days for state projects.

The effectiveness of the recent federal economic stimulus legislation will depend in large part upon how quickly state and local governments can use these funds for important infrastructure projects that will generate jobs and improve roads, water and sewer systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 1829.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director