

HB 302 HD1



**TESTIMONY OF MARION M. HIGA, STATE AUDITOR, ON HOUSE BILL NO. 302,
HOUSE DRAFT 1, 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

February 10, 2009

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this bill. It will provide adequate funding for my office despite the 10 percent reduction from our current operating budget, as I testified before you on January 6, 2009. I appreciate the provisions in the House draft for the Audit Revolving Fund.

We look forward to a challenging work program in the next fiscal year and will do whatever we can to assist the State through this fiscal crisis. I am available for your questions.

Ken H. Takayama
Director

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
First Assistant

Research (808) 587-0666
Revisor (808) 587-0670
Fax (808) 587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 446
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

HB302, HD1
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES
OF THE LEGISLATURE, THE AUDITOR
THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, AND THE OMBUDSMAN

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Ken H. Takayama, Director

Presented to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 10, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

I am Ken H. Takayama, Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of H.B. No. 302, H.D. 1, which appropriates funds for the legislative branch of state government. Section 9 of that measure appropriates the funding for the Bureau for Fiscal Year 2009-2010.

Late last year, we were asked to try to reduce our budget by ten per cent from last year's appropriation. Accordingly, our budget for this year would be \$3,113,126, which includes \$85,000 (the amount included in our 2008-2009 budget) to cover the State's dues for the Council of State Governments, which the Bureau is directed to pay on behalf of the State each year. I believe this amount will be adequate to enable the Bureau to carry out our duties and responsibilities in the coming year.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify. I am open to questions from you and any members of the Committee.



Robin K. Matsunaga
Ombudsman

David T. Tomatani
First Assistant

**OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
STATE OF HAWAII**

465 South King Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Tel: (808) 587-0770 Fax: (808) 587-0773 TTY: (808) 587-0774
complaints@ombudsman.hawaii.gov

**TESTIMONY OF ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA, OMBUDSMAN,
ON H.B. NO. 302, 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
FEBRUARY 10, 2009**

Chair Kim and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of H.B. No. 302, 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. 302, H.D. 1, which appropriates \$1,060,728 to defray the expenses of the Office in fiscal year 2009-2010. This appropriation reflects the budget requested in my presentation to this committee during the informational briefing on January 6, 2009, and will enable the Office of the Ombudsman to continue its work in serving the people of Hawaii in fiscal year 2009-2010.

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



HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

FEB - 6 2009

State of Hawaii • Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

BILL NO: H.B. 302, H.D. 1, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE LEGISLATURE, THE AUDITOR, THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, AND THE OMBUDSMAN

TO: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Hawaii State Ethics Commission

TESTIFYING: Daniel J. Mollway
Executive Director and General Counsel
Hawaii State Ethics Commission

VIA: Ms. Marion Higa, Legislative Auditor

DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2009

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

ROOM: State Capitol, Conference Room 211

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair; The Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair; and Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify today on H.B. No. 302, H.D. 1.

The Section of H.B. No. 302, H.D. 1, relevant to the Hawaii State Ethics Commission is Section 6(2). The Hawaii State Ethics Commission strongly supports Section 6(2) of this bill in providing \$885,292 for the budget of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission for FY 2009-2010.

As this Committee knows, the Hawaii State Ethics Commission presented testimony before this Committee regarding its budget request for FY 2009-2010 on January 6, 2009. At this time, we have nothing further to add to our testimony presented on January 6, 2009, and thus stand on our testimony presented on that date, and incorporated herein by reference.

We would like to thank the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for its support in the past, and for this opportunity to testify today. I would be happy to respond to any questions Committee Members may have at this time.



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII STATE SENATE

to the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair

The Honorable Shan Tsutsui, Vice Chair

H.B. No. 302, HD1

Making Appropriations to Provide for the Expenses of the Legislature,
the Auditor, the Legislative Reference Bureau, and the Ombudsman

February 10, 2009

9:30 am

Chair Kim and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of the leadership and members of the Hawaii State Senate, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. No. 302, HD1.

The Senate's 2009 operating budget request is \$7,125,681. Due in large part to the Senate's paperless initiative, significant savings have been realized through the reduction and redistribution of work activities of temporary session employees, and reduction of the Senate Document Center copier leasing costs, paper purchases, and other supplies. In addition, the Senate has restricted out-of-state travel by Senators and staff, reduced funds for training and professional development, and deferred major purchases and staff salary increases, resulting in a 17.6% reduction in the Senate's discretionary budget.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carol Taniguchi".

Carol Taniguchi
Senate Clerk

kim4 - Elizabeth

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 07, 2009 12:16 PM
To: WAM Testimony
Cc: thirr33@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB302 on 2/10/2009 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for WAM 2/10/2009 9:30:00 AM HB302

Conference room: 211
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Arvid Tadao Youngquist
Organization: The Mestizo Association
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: thirr33@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2009

Comments:
Chair Donna Mercado Kim
Vice Chair Shan S. Tsutsui
The Right Honorable Members
Hawaii Senate
Ways and Means Committee

This is a brief testimony in support of HB 302 HD1 which is expedited to provide for Legislative Expenditures.

The HD1 in the Committee Report from the House refers to the Office of the Auditors's request for additional funding due to unforeseen recent anticipated expenditures.

Since the business of the Capitol largely depends on this bill, not to mention the Reference Bureau, Ombudsman, Auditor, etc., I strongly urge you to vote for this legislation.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 302 HD1.

("1 of 16,588 local voices")