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TESTIMONY  
OF  
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
ON  
February 10, 2009

Bill No. HB 763

Support Y  N

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H.B. 763

RELATING TO GRAY WATER

Chair Morita and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 763.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) opposes this bill for several reasons.

First, this bill, if implemented, would undermine the purpose and operation of the State Building Code Council, which was established by Act 82 of the 2007 Legislature. HRS 107 Part II, State Building Code and Design Standards, provides a comprehensive process for adopting state building codes from the national and international codes that national and international organizations review and update on an ongoing and rigorous basis.

The process for adopting these national and international codes for Hawai'i involve extensive review by expert committees of architects, engineers, and industry experts, unanimous approval by a subcommittee of county building officials, and

approval by the full Council, followed by public hearings and the rulemaking process by which the building codes are put into effect. This process for adopting building codes should be used for all codes that become part of the building code.

This bill is also unnecessary. Gray water systems are included in the Uniform Plumbing Code Chapter 16. The State Building Code Council is preparing to adopt the Uniform Plumbing Code plus an appendix K, which deals with onsite sewage disposal.

DAGS recommends that this bill be held.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.