

LATE TESTIMONY

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February 4, 2009

Honorable Representative Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair
Members of Economic Revitalization and Business
and Military Affairs

RE: House Bill 1603

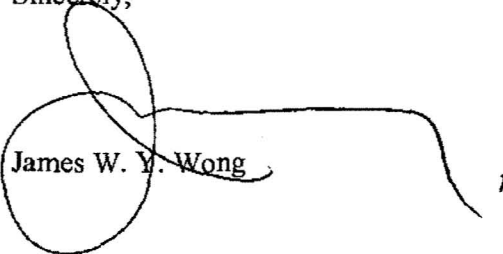
Dear Honorable Chair McKelvey and Members of the Economic Revitalization and Business and Military Affairs Committee:

I wish to support passage of House Bill 1603 which will provide an appropriation to allow the legislative reference bureau to contract with an out-of-state contractor to undertake a diagnostic assessment of the conditions, challenges, and opportunities facing the State of Hawaii.

If House Bill 1603 is passed, the legislative reference bureau shall be directed to contract with an out-of-state contractor to undertake the a diagnostic assessment of the conditions, challenges, and opportunities facing the State of Hawaii and an overall strategy for addressing the challenges facing the State and utilizing the advantages or strengths of the State in meeting these challenges.

This bill is vital to the State of Hawaii in that the study that would be performed upon the bill's approval will assess factors of Hawaii's economy including the state's key industries, cost of living and doing business, globalization and outsourcing, consumer trends, and new technological developments. These key factors affect all residents of Hawaii in day to day life, and by passing the bill and having the study conducted and acting upon its recommendations, Hawaii's economy and its residents would be able to benefit from the full potential our economy possesses.

Sincerely,


James W. Y. Wong