

**BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY**

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843



February 17, 2009

MUFI HANNEMANN, Mayor

RANDALL Y. S. CHUNG, Chairman  
SAMUEL T. HATA  
ALLY J. PARK  
ROBERT K. CUNDIFF

JEFFREY S. CUDIAMAT, Ex-Officio  
BRENNON T. MORIOKA, Ex-Officio

WAYNE M. HASHIRO, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer

DEAN A. NAKANO  
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair  
and Members  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

Subject: House Bill 588, Relating to Counties

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (HBWS) strongly supports House Bill 588, which proposes amendments to Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Section 49-3 extending the authority of county boards to issue revenue bonds pursuant to existing charter provisions.

Chapter 49, HRS, regarding revenue bonds creates a structure for county agencies to issue revenue bonds. SB 1206 incorporates proposed language, which will achieve consistency between Chapter 49, HRS, and Article VII of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu (Revised Charter).

Article VII of the City Charter is the legal authority that governs the HBWS. Section 7-105 of the City Charter expressly grants to the HBWS the unrestricted and unconditional authority to issue revenue bonds in the name of the "Board of Water Supply":

**Section 7-105. Powers, Duties and Functions of the Board of Water Supply - -**

The board of water supply shall:

- (h) Have the authority to issue revenue bonds under the name of the "board of water supply."

In addition to several housekeeping revisions, House Bill 588 incorporates proposed language extending the provisions of Chapter 49 to the Board regarding exemption from state taxation. House Bill 588 clarifies that such exemption under Chapter 49 extends to those county boards issuing revenue bonds pursuant to existing charter authority.

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply therefore, strongly supports the passage of House Bill 588. Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

WAYNE M. HASHIRO, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer