



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.R. No. 21/H.C.R. No. 61, REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO PERFORM A FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT

DATE: Friday, March 5, 2010 **TIME:** 2:10 PM

LOCATION: Conference Room 423

TESTIFIER(S): Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General, or
Garry L. Kemp, Administrator, Child Support
Enforcement Agency

Chair Tokioka and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this resolution is to require the Auditor to perform a financial and management audit of the Child Support Enforcement Agency.

Although the Department of the Attorney General agrees with some parts of the resolution, it should be pointed out that the resolution relies on information from a newspaper article from 2005, almost five years ago. We believe that even though the Child Support Enforcement Agency's average caseload to caseworker ratio remains one of the highest in the nation, there have been more than just some improvements accomplished by the agency. Given these improvements, we do not believe that there have been persistent complaints about the inefficient operation of the Child Support Enforcement Agency, certainly at least not within the last several years.

In addition, two audits of the agency are performed by the federal government every year. These federal audits are done to

ensure that the Child Support Enforcement Agency is correctly reporting the activities that are performed by the agency and to review the agency's financial operations. This year, the first federal audit is scheduled to take place in March. Also, the last financial and management audit by the Auditor was in 2006.

While the Attorney General and the Child Support Enforcement Agency would fully cooperate with any audit, this may not be the best use of available resources at this time.