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AARON S. FUJIOKA
ADMINISTRATOR



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TESTIMONY OF AARON S. FUJIOKA ADMINISTRATOR STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION, BUSINESS & MILITARY AFFAIRS

March 23, 2010

8:30 AM

HCR 193 and HR 126

REQUESTING A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE SHOULD CENTRALIZE THE PROVISION OF COMPLEX PROCUREMENT SERVICES.

Chair McKelvey, Vice-Chair Choy, and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HCR 193 and HR 126. This resolution for the State Procurement Office (SPO) to conduct a feasibility study is not necessary, nor does the SPO have the resources to devote to such a study with our extremely limited resources.

In past years, the SPO conducted procurement services on behalf of the executive departments/agencies at their request. The SPO has in place a formal request process (Reference: Forms SPO-18, Request for Procurement Services; SPO-18A, Request for Review Services) by which departments/agencies would request for SPO services, whether to conduct the procurement on their behalf or to review their procurement document.

In recent years, due to retirements of SPO procurement staff, and the freeze on hiring, the SPO was not allowed to fill vacant positions with qualified replacements. SPO has gone from 23 positions to a current count of 13 and out of the 10 vacancies, 5 purchasing specialist vacancies alone amounted to over 140+ years of procurement experience lost due to retirements with no replacements. The SPO can no longer continue to conduct procurements on behalf of the executive departments/agencies.

This feasibility study is unnecessary as it has already been identified that until SPO has sufficient qualified, experienced procurement personnel, a centralized procurement system cannot be supported.