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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 446  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

## Written Testimony

### SB1105, SD2, HD1

### RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS AND PROCEDURES

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau  
Ken H. Takayama, Director

Presented to the House Committee on Finance

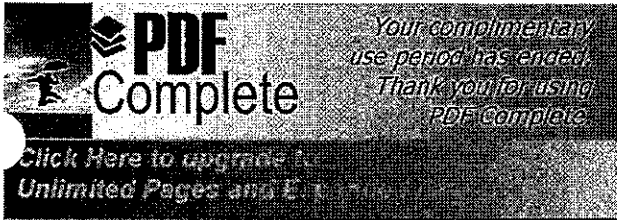
Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 308

Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee:

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify on S.B. No. 1105, SD2, HD1, which requires all state agencies to submit copies of studies and reports with designated legislators and the clerks of the respective chambers, and also requires chairs of the subject matter committees to hold public hearings or informational briefings on the studies and reports.

The Bureau takes **no position** either for or against the measure, but submits the following comments and concerns:

1. As always, if this is something that the Legislature wants us to do, we will do it to the best of our ability.
2. The Bureau presently distributes copies of all of its reports to all legislators as well as the clerks of both chambers, and we would readily assent to a request by a presiding officer or subject matter chair to participate in an informational briefing or public hearing.
3. The primary change caused by this measure is that every agency will need to assume that it should prepare informational briefings or public hearings for all of its studies or reports. This will add another "hurdle" prior to the completion of any study being submitted to the Legislature--at the time that agencies are presumably preparing for budget hearings.
4. For the Bureau, the period immediately prior to the convening of session is the single busiest time of the year, as Bureau staff are also responding to numerous requests for bill drafting and other research.



on, it would be beneficial to all agencies if some kind of mechanism could be established (whether as part of the bill or through procedures established by each house) to obtain an early decision on whether the briefing or public hearing on a particular study will be waived.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.