SR 115

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LATE

TESTIMONY OF RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY AND WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS ON March 29, 2010

S.R. 115

REQUESTING AN UPDATE AND PRESENTATION ON THE STADIUM AUTHORITY'S EFFORTS TO TRANSFER THE RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTION FROM THE STADIUM FACILITIES AND LANDS TO AN ALTERNATIVE STATE PARCEL.

Chair Fukunaga, Chair Hee, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.R. 115.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) will be happy to provide an update and presentation to the Legislature on the Stadium Authority's efforts to transfer the recreational use restriction from the Stadium facilities and lands to an alternative State parcel. However, there may not be substantial information to report on June 30, 2010. A date closer to the end of November may be better.

Discussions between DAGS and DLNR and the US Department of the Interior have progressed through the identification of parcels on three on the State's islands and are now narrowed down to a short list. The next steps are for the US DOI and the State to perform appraisals of all of the potential properties as well as the Stadium, and for the State to develop recreational plans for the proposed parcels for exchange.

DAGS and DLNR will be selecting appraisers as well as consultants to develop the recreational plans. This follows concurrence that DAGS received from the Stadium Authority to expend funds out of the Stadium special fund to cover the costs. The basis of the Stadium Authority's concurrence is their benefit from the lifting of the recreational use restriction if agreement can be reached between DAGS, DLNR, and the US DOI.

The process has taken into consideration the schedule of the US DOI, which is also reviewing, with DAGS and DLNR, the easement requirements of the transit infrastructure, including a station and park and ride arrangement along Kamehameha Highway.

DAGS is planning to have all of the documents and approvals ready as soon as practical. It is just not likely to be done by June 30. We will be happy to update the Legislature and make a presentation when everything's done.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this matter.