



# LATE TESTIMONY

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. Box 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:  
File:

## Committee on Economic Revitalization and Business

### H.B. 667, H.D. 1, RELATING TO FOOD SAFETY

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.  
Acting Director of Health

March 1, 2011  
11:00 am

- 1 **Department's Position:** Oppose.
- 2 **Fiscal Implications:** This bill would require resources that the department currently does not have.
- 3 **Purpose and Justification:** This bill proposes that the department be the lead in establishing a detailed
- 4 action plan to simplify and consolidate permitting and licensing requirements for food production and
- 5 processing facilities. The department does not have the resources to develop detailed action plans that
- 6 need to be coordinated with DBEDT and DOA as well as any other state or federal agencies to develop
- 7 this plan. DBEDT is responsible for streamlining commerce, and coordinating with other agencies. The
- 8 sanitation branch is regulatory in nature and may have conflicts of interest in promoting businesses. The
- 9 sanitation branch presently reviews the building plans for permits of the above food facilities within 48
- 10 hours. Once the facility is built, the sanitation branch will inspect within 24 hours and will issue the
- 11 approval to operate if all departmental requirements are met at the time of inspection. The sanitation
- 12 branch have refined, simplified and streamlined the process in the past six years to assist the business
- 13 community. The sanitation staffs' daily functions have been prioritized to ensure that businesses are not
- 14 delayed by our regulatory function and we have not received a formal complaint in the past five years
- 15 that the sanitation branch is the reason for any delay in new business openings.

1 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.