



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
Richard C. Lim
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
AND
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS**

Friday, April 1, 2011
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HCR 149, HR130
**REQUESTING A TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH A SISTER-STATE RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE MARITIME PROVINCE, RUSSIA, FOR ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, AND
INTELLECTUAL BENEFITS.**

Chairs Awana and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Hashem and Choy and Members of the
Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) offers the
following comments to HCR 149 and HR130, which seek to establish task force within DBEDT
to establish a sister-state relationship between the State of Hawaii and the Maritime Province,
Russia for economic, cultural, and intellectual benefits.

The Hawaii Sister-State Committee was established by the Legislature in 2006 to advise
the Governor and the Legislature on matters relating to sister-state relations and relations in
general between the State of Hawaii and international jurisdictions. DBEDT respectfully
suggests that the initiative mentioned in this measure be first undertaken by the Hawaii Sister-
State Committee to provide advice and recommendation prior to passing a resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.