

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BRUCE A. COPPA
Comptroller

RYAN OKAHARA
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY
OF
BRUCE A. COPPA, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCE

April 6, 2011

S.B. 1213, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

RELATING TO PERMITTING

Chair Oshiro and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 1213, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of S.B. 1213, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, but opposes this bill for the following reasons:

1. The real stake holders in the county permitting process are design professionals in the building industry. State departments utilize these stake holders to obtain building permits to construct the required facilities. Membership of State departments will add little or no value to the output of this task force.
2. The Comptroller and DAGS does not have any administrative or jurisdictional control over the Counties when it comes to streamlining their Building Permit approval process. Additionally, the County Councils' adopt ordinances, administrative rules,

building codes, etc. that for the most part influence the administrative responsibilities of the county permitting process. Therefore, this Legislative initiative should remain with the respective Counties to address.

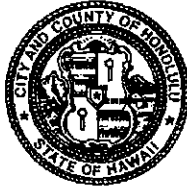
3. In lieu of this bill, it is suggested that the Legislature consider proposing a resolution that asks the four Counties to form a joint committee including members from associations representing design professionals and the building industry who will work on submitting a report to the Legislature on how the Building Permit approval process can be improved. The Chair of the joint committee would be elected from the members of that group. Inclusion of the design professionals and the building industry is important as these members will provide stakeholder or customer feedback on what parts of the permitting process they feel need to be addressed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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April 6, 2011

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

**Subject: Senate Bill No. 1213, SD1, HD1
Relating to Permitting**

The Department of Planning and Permitting has reviewed the HD1 amended version of Senate Bill No. 1213 and **strongly supports** the formation of a temporary task force to find ways of streamlining the building permit process and will be pleased to participate in recommending changes to county and state regulations that will benefit businesses and citizens of our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Tanoue", is written over a horizontal line.

David K. Tanoue, Director
Department of Planning and Permitting

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