

SB 1260

TESTIMONY BY **KALBERT K. YOUNG**
INTERIM DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 1260

February 3, 2011

RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCE

Senate Bill No. 1260 sets forth the State's allocation of the limit on the principal amount of bonds that may be issued by issuers within Hawaii, including tax exempt interest, tax credits, interest subsidies or other benefits under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), which is limited by federal law.

The Department **strongly supports** this administration measure.

The federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) created several new types of tax-exempt bonds and tax credit bonds which resulted in new and expanded allocations to states and local governments. The Office of the Attorney General advised the Department that statutory authorization is necessary for the State to distribute the ARRA allocations of tax-exempt bond authority and tax credit authorization from the federal government. As such, this legislation will allow the use of the existing ARRA allocation, as well as any other (i.e. non-ARRA) future federal allocations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our testimony on this bill.