HB 1181, HD1

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT

Description:

Brings laws relating to false claims to the state and to the counties into compliance with the federal False Claims Act in order to meet federal requirements that state laws provide the same or greater protections as those established under section 1909 of the Social Security Act. (HB1181 HD1)



TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE, 2012

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1181, H.D. 1, RELATING TO GOVERNMENT.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AND ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

DATE:

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

TIME: 10:05 a.m.

LOCATION:

State Capitol, Conference Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): David M. Louie, Attorney General, or

Michael Parrish, Deputy Attorney General

Chairs Espero and Hee and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General (the "Department") strongly supports this bill.

The primary purpose of this bill is to bring Hawaii's State false claims law into conformance with the Federal False Claims Act. It also updates the County False Claims Act to reflect the same changes that are sought in the State False Claims Act, so that the two statutes will be consistent with each other.

This bill will ensure that Hawaii updates its law to comply with section 1909 of the Social Security Act, which was amended by the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act, the Federal False Claims Act, the Affordable Care Act, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Amending the statutes will enable the State to continue to retain an additional ten percent of any civil recovery in cases involving federal programs. Hawaii must comply with the federal law changes by March 31, 2013.

The Department respectfully requests that this bill be passed in its entirety.