



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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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Statement of
Richard C. Lim
Interim Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Thursday, March 3, 2011
3:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
HB 1584, HD1
**RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES
TO FOSTER INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS.**

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of HB 1584, HD1 which creates a commission to explore opportunities to foster international relationships.

However, it's important to note that the measure may be duplicative. Under DBEDT, the Hawaii Sister-State Committee currently advises the Governor and the Legislature on matters relating to sister-state or province relations and relations in general between the State of Hawaii and the states, provinces or prefectures of foreign countries. DBEDT respectfully suggests that the initiatives mentioned in this measure may be undertaken by the Hawaii Sister-State Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.