

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

RICHARD C. LIM

MARY ALICE EVANS

No. 1 Capitol District Bldg., 250 South Hotel St., 5th For., Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone:

Fax:

(808) 586-2355 (808) 586-2377

Statement of Richard C. Lim Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Monday, February 27, 2012 1:15 P.M. State Capitol, Conference Room 308 In consideration of

HB1758, HD1 RELATING TO BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT IN HAWAII

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

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of HB1758, HD1 which amends Chapter 201, Hawaii Revised Statutes to establish a qualified media infrastructure program within DBEDT through issuance of revenue bonds.

This measure provides a framework to support development, construction, renovation, or operations of a film, video, television, or media production or post-production facility. While we have concerns regarding the inclusion of the operations component, the department recognizes that enhancements to the existing HRS 235-17 through extension of the sunset date to 2025, and building capacity in our workforce, together with infrastructure development are three key components to grow this clean, creative industry sector for our state.

Should the measure pass, DBEDT would require additional staffing to support the program. We look forward to further discussions with lawmakers and industry on this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.