DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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PETER B. CARLISLE MAYOR



NOEL T. ONO DIRECTOR ROBIN CHUN-CARMICHAEL ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

February 3, 2012

The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary The House of Representatives State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members:

Subject: House Bill 1764

Relating To Residency of Appointive Officers

The City and County of Honolulu strongly supports House Bill 1764. This bill allows the waiver of the residency requirements for department heads and deputies or assistants to a department head, when the appointive officer is required to have highly specialized or scientific knowledge or training and a qualified applicant who meets the residency requirement is not available to fill the position.

The current one year residency requirement has made it extremely difficult for the City to hire a Chief Medical Examiner and Deputy Chief Medical Examiner. These positions require highly specific education, experience as well as a Doctor of Medicine license and certification by the American Board of Pathology in Anatomic or Forensic Pathology. Due to the level of expertise required, it has been practically impossible to find a local applicant qualified to serve in either of these positions. House Bill 1764 provides for the aforementioned exception and permits the appointment of an individual who does not meet the residency requirement in certain limited circumstances.

We accordingly ask for your favorable consideration of House Bill 1764. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Yours truly,

Noel T. Ono Director

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