

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
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In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Human Services

February 3, 2011

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Acting Director of Health
HB504, Relating to Health

1 **Department's Position:** Oppose

2 **Fiscal Implications:** Unspecified department expenses

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The Hawaii Department of Health respectfully opposes HB504 on the
4 grounds that it incurs unnecessary expenses in a time of diminished financial and human resources, and
5 does not substantively alter the mission of the Department nor increase the Department's commitment to
6 environmental health and service delivery to its stakeholder.

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8 The Department appreciates the strong public statement supporters of this bill may be wishing to convey
9 by renaming the Department of Health to the Department of Health and Environmental Services, but
10 citizens and constituents may rest assured of the environmental bona fides and support of Governor
11 Abercrombie and his Cabinet and their core belief that the environment is a prime determinant of health.

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13 Furthermore, the cost implications of this bill, particularly without the executive budget being finalized
14 and in the midst of severe budget constraints are practically burdensome, for example building signage,
15 web pages, business cards, etc., and a potential object of media scrutiny.