



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
INTERIM DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of

RICHARD C. LIM
Interim Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION & BUSINESS

Thursday, February 3, 2011
8:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HB 980

RELATING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Choy and Members of the House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports HB 980, which seeks to rectify the issue of rules adopted by state agencies that are not amended or repealed to reflect changes to statutes being implemented by the rules. DBEDT also supports the idea of having the SBRRB and other state agencies work together to develop internal procedures to expedite rulemaking actions that deal solely with amendments to and repeal of rules to conform to current statutes.

Currently, HRS 201M-7, "Periodic review; evaluation report," directs state agencies that have rules affecting small business to submit a list of those rules to the Small Business Regulatory Review Board (SBRRB) on odd-numbered years. HB 980 would make state

agencies more accountable by having them identify rules that impact small business and ensure that the agencies conform to the current statutes implemented by those rules on an annual basis.

By developing internal procedures to expedite the amendments to or repeal of rules to conform to current statutes, small businesses would be running their business based on the most up-to-date rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



Ocean Tourism Coalition

The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry
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Testimony to the House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business
Thursday, February 3, 2011; 8:00a.m.
Conference Room 312

Speaking in Strong Support of HB 980

RE: HOUSE BILL 980: Small Business Regulatory Review Board

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Choy and Members of the Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition. The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. We appreciate these efforts being made by the Legislature in addressing the needs of small business. We support HB 980.

I was a charter member of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board and served one term. I know how important the SBRRB is to small business. This bill addresses some of the key impediments that stand in the way of real economic progress in our State.

We humbly ask you to please pass HB 980. It will make a very positive difference.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 808-870-9115.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President, OTC
captcoon@gmail.com