## 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 7, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor The Senate State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill 2070

Relating To Residency of Appointive Officers

The City and County of Honolulu strongly supports Senate Bill 2070. 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. Senate Bill 2070 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 Senate Bill 2070. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Yours truly,

Noel T. Ono Director