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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of WILLIAM J. AILA, JR Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 11, 2012 9:35 A.M. State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 117, SENATE DRAFT 1 URGING THE STATE TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO ACT 54, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2011, TO FURTHER INCLUDE PUBLIC FACILITIES, THEREBY CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC LANDS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

Senate Concurrent Resolution 117, Senate Draft 1/Senate Resolution 58, Senate Draft 1 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources ("Department") to expand the scope of the comprehensive information system established pursuant to Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011, to inventory and maintain the information about the lands of the public trust described in Section 5(f) of the Admission Act and Article XII, Section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution to further include public facilities, thereby creating a comprehensive asset management system for State buildings on all state lands, regardless of which department or agency has management control over the state building. The Department supports the underlying intent of these resolutions but notes that it is well outside of the scope of Act 54 or the Department's mission and function. These resolutions might be better suited for those agencies and departments that have actual and direct management and maintenance responsibilities over state buildings.

Although a comprehensive asset management system for state buildings and structures may be useful for agencies that are managing and maintaining state buildings, such system or role would be outside the scope of the Department's primary mission and function. The Department's focus is land and natural resources and the Department wishes to continue with this focus in these times of limited human and financial resources. The management and maintenance of state buildings is generally under the management and maintenance jurisdiction of other agencies such as the Department of Accounting and General Services, the University of Hawaii, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority, the Department of Transportation-Airports, the High Technology Development Corporation, the Hawaii Community Development Authority, the Department of Education, etc., as examples.¹ Perhaps these resolutions would be better directed at those agencies that have actual and direct management and maintenance authority and responsibility over state buildings and structures; such agencies may find an asset based management system a useful tool in planning capital improvement and repair and maintenance projects.

¹ The Department in the past explored the possibility of an asset based management system for the Division of State Parks. The Department consulted with the City and County of Honolulu Parks Department, a federal agency and others and learned that the costs to develop such a system would take several years of planning and design, implementation, and cost in the multiple million dollar range. The City also shared its experience with the time and complexity of obtaining employee buy-in into the new system, and union issues.