



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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Statement of
JESSE K. SOUKI
Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, February 26, 2014
5:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
HB 2518 HD 1
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the House Committee on Finance.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports the intent of HB 2518, HD 1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. HB 2518, HD 1 tasks OP with conducting a comprehensive review of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 226, the state planning act, to include: (1) the analysis of a wide array of state policies and programs, county plans and programs, functional plans, capital improvements programs, and significant issues confronting the State with respect to the state planning act and its implementation; and (2) soliciting proposals for amendments to the state planning act from the general public pursuant to HRS § 226-54. OP is to submit a report with any recommendations to the Legislature prior to the 2016 legislative session.

HRS Chapter 226 was enacted in 1978, after a multi-year, cross-sector effort to develop goals and policies to guide the development of the State and to establish an integrated planning

and implementation system to deliver on those policies. The last review of HRS Chapter 226 was initiated in 1983 and completed in 1985, and resulted in the enactment of legislation to finetune the goals, policies, and objectives of Part I and priority guidelines of Part III of the state planning act.

Since then, there have been significant changes in Hawaii's economic, physical, and social conditions, technology, and the global marketplace, as well as in the constraints and opportunities the State faces as we plan for the future. Every legislative session there are individual bills proposing new policies and revisions to existing policies to address changes in our planning environment. A comprehensive review of the state planning act—with respect to how it aligns with current and emerging conditions and issues and its effectiveness in addressing the needs of Hawaii's people and providing for Hawaii's future—is long overdue.

HD 1 does not specify the amount to be appropriated for the purposes of the bill. Additional funds would be required as OP lacks the staff and resources to undertake a project of this scope at this time. A rigorous evaluation of the State Planning Act will require an investment of public and private resources. Development of the original plan included thorough topic area studies, statewide collaboration, and input by subject matter experts. The office estimates that approximately \$500,000 would be sufficient to accomplish most of this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

LATE

SENT VIA EMAIL

February 26, 2014

Representative Sylvia Luke
Chair, Committee on Finance
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto
Vice Chair, Committee on Finance
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson
Vice Chair, Committee on Finance
Hearing on House Bill 2518 HD1
Relating to State Planning
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Luke and Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson!

As with all plans, there is a need to review, fine tune and adjust plans according to the ever changing landscape of economic conditions effecting the Counties and the State as a whole.

Enterprise Honolulu stands in strong support of House Bill 2518 HD1 and its intent for the State Office of Planning to provide the necessary updates with recommendations for amendments to the Hawaii State Plan.

Please feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Mark McGuffie
Managing Director
Enterprise Honolulu, Oahu Economic Development Board



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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2014 3:34 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: mfox@tnc.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2518 on Feb 26, 2014 17:00PM

HB2518

Submitted on: 2/26/2014

Testimony for FIN on Feb 26, 2014 17:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Fox	The Nature Conservancy	Support	No

Comments: While the State Plan was amended in 2011 to include sustainability guidelines and again in 2012 to include climate change adaptation priority guidelines, a more comprehensive review and modernization of the State planning system is overdue. Thank you.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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