



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY,
& INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

Wednesday, March 27, 2013
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312
in consideration of

HCR 151 / HR 120
**ENCOURAGING THE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION OF A
TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN
AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI, CANADA, CHILE, MALAYSIA, MEXICO,
NEW ZEALAND, PERU, SINGAPORE, VIETNAM, AND THE UNITED STATES.**

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito and Members of the House Committee on Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports HCR 151 and HR 120, which encourages the successful negotiation of a Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement between Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam, and the United States.

DBEDT would be pleased to transmit certified copies of this concurrent resolution upon its passage.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 152 / HOUSE RESOLUTION 121
RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE UNITED STATES-INDONESIA
COMPREHENSIVE PARTNERSHIP AND THE GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE
OF ENHANCED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND INDONESIA

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS, MILITARY,
& INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, & CULTURE AND THE ARTS

BY

MAJOR GENERAL DARRYLL D. M. WONG
March 27, 2013

Chair Takai, Vice Chair Ito, and Members of the Veterans, Military, & International Affairs, & Culture and the Arts Committee:

I am Major General Darryll D. M. Wong. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of House Concurrent Resolution 152 / House Resolution 121.

These resolutions parallel the Hawaii National Guard's State Partnership with Indonesia.

The National Guard's 65-nation, 23-year-old State Partnership Program (SPP) provides unique partnership capacity-building capabilities to combatant commanders and U.S. ambassadors through partnerships between U.S. states, territories and the District of Columbia and foreign countries.

The SPP supports U.S. national interests and security cooperation goals by engaging partner nations via military, socio-political and economic conduits at the local, state and national level.

The SPP evolved from a 1991 U.S. European Command decision to set up the Joint Contact Team Program in the Baltic Region with Reserve component Soldiers and Airmen. A subsequent National Guard Bureau proposal paired U.S. states with three nations emerging from the former Soviet Bloc and the SPP was born, becoming a key U.S. security cooperation tool, facilitating cooperation across all aspects of international civil-military affairs and encouraging people-to-people ties at the state level.

The commitment between the United States and Indonesia can only benefit from this relationship.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

vmitestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 7:45 PM
To: vmitestimony
Cc: rwbaker3@att.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for HCR151 on Mar 27, 2013 08:30AM

HCR151

Submitted on: 3/26/2013

Testimony for VMI on Mar 27, 2013 08:30AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard W. Baker	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is an entirely sensible resolution. Completion and ratification of a Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement would greatly benefit Hawaii because of our strategic location between the mainland United States and Asia. I strongly recommend passage of this resolution. Richard W. Baker International Relations Specialist 206 Lumahai Place Honolulu HI 96825 Tel: 396-6021

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

House Committee on Veterans, Military & International Affairs & Arts and Culture
Wed March 27, 8:30 am
Room 312

Rep. Mark Takai, Chair
Rep. Ken Ito, Vice-Chair

Bart Dame
710 West Hind Drive
Honolulu HI

IN OPPOSITION

HCR 151: ENCOURAGING THE SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION OF A TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI, CANADA, CHILE, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, PERU, SINGAPORE, VIETNAM, AND THE UNITED STATES

As a Hawaii resident with a longstanding interest in theories of economic development, I relish the opportunity this resolution will provide for a rare public discussion of the pluses and minuses of the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. I look forward to proponents of this resolution explaining how this would serve the interests of Hawaii residents? In their view, what are the costs, what are the benefits, who are the likely winners and who, unfortunately, might be the losers.

It is my understanding that the public, including most of our elected officials, have been denied copies of the draft agreement. So I am delighted that our legislators have enough information about what is in the agreement that they have confidence they can satisfy the concerns of other legislators and the public, answer our questions so we can also, in good conscience, support the latest expansion of the "free trade" agenda which has been imposed through successive treaties, since NAFTA, the WTO and other such agreements.

Surely our legislators would not agree to the latest version of a NAFTA-style treaty without being willing to defend the results of the first NAFTA agreement? Union members, in particular, are undoubtedly interested in learning how legislators they endorsed are now enthusiastic about a new NAFTA-style agreement which would cover much of Asia, though notably excluding China. Conservatives, concerned about the surrender of US sovereignty to international bodies such as the United Nations and the International Court of Criminal Justice must have a few questions for their Republican elected officials supporting surrendering the right to make decisions on economic matters to an unelected, corporate dominated, transnational body like the TPP? Or are they only concerned about black helicopters landing to take away their guns?

Let me suggest the groundwork has not been laid in this body for a fruitful discussion of the Trans-Pacific Partnership and its possible impact upon the people of Hawaii and the United States and ask this resolution not pass at this time. Without members having access to the language of the proposed drafts, passing any such resolution must be understood to be a declaration of uncritical support for so-called "free trade" agreements in general and a willingness to issue a blank check for the agreement, sight unseen. I do not have that degree of faith in the corporate interests who dominate US trade policy. I am surprised if many legislators do, once pressed on the point.

OTOH, those who DO have that faith are urged to place their reasoning into the public record so their colleagues, and the public, can benefit from their explanations.

Those wanting to prepare such remarks might find this webpage a useful resource for gaining familiarity with some of the concerns critics have:

<https://www.eff.org/issues/tpp>

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.