

HB2435

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY.

Report Title: Hawaii Tourism Authority

Description: For the Hawaii Tourism Authority, removes the repeal date of the following provisions: the exemption from Comptroller supervision of accounts; authorization for Comptroller to request annual publication of statements information; the imposition of only statewide uniform accounting form requirements; the Executive Director's state retirement benefits and compensation package adjustments; the grant of appointment authority for a Sports Director; and provisions directing deposit of interest and revenues from Authority projects into Tourism Special Fund. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB2435 HD1)

Companion: [SB2431](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: TSM/EGH, WAM

Introducer(s): BROWER, AWANA, CACHOLA, EVANS, HANOHANO, KOBAYASHI, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, Aquino, Carroll, Hashem, Ichiyama, Morikawa, Nakashima, Nishimoto



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Neil Abercrombie
Governor

Mike McCartney
President and Chief Executive Officer

Testimony of
Mike McCartney
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
on
H.B. No. 2435, H.D. 1
Relating to Hawaii Tourism Authority
Senate Committee on Tourism
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Government Operations, and Housing
Wednesday, March 19, 2014
2:30 p.m.
Conference Room 229

The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) strongly supports H.B. No. 2435, to make permanent HTA's exemption from the supervision of accounts, granted by Act 58, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004.

Act 58, Session Laws of Hawaii of 2004, was enacted to enhance the operational effectiveness and efficiency of the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA). In response to a report by the Legislative Auditor in 2002, Act 58 was enacted which included a grant to HTA of an exemption from the supervision of accounts.

Even though exempt from the provisions, HTA still has to preaudit all proposed payments for compliance with the applicable laws, orders, and rules; and maintain the documents necessary to support the disbursement from our accounts and publication of statements.

The amendments made by Act 58, allow the HTA to operate efficiently and to execute its financial transactions in a timely manner. In order to continue to do so, the provisions of Act should be made permanent.

We request that the effective date be changed to "upon its approval."

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.