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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
S.B. No. 2431
Relating to Hawaii Tourism Authority
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, February 19, 2014
9:20 a.m.
Conference Room 211

The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) strongly supports S.B. No. 2431, 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, Act 58 was enacted to grant to HTA an exemption from the supervision of accounts.

HTA will still have 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.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.