SCR 5 SR 5

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO WORK WITH CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TO REVIEW THE PREREQUISITES FOR OBTAINING PERMIT APPROVAL FOR DEVELOPMENTS AT THE STATE AND COUNTY LEVELS.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of RICHARD C. LIM

Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND HOUSING And

PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Monday, February 03, 2014 2:50 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 016

in consideration of SCR 5/SR 5

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO WORK WITH CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TO REVIEW THE PREREQUISITES FOR OBTAINING PERMIT APPROVAL FOR DEVELOPMENTS AT THE STATE AND COUNTY LEVELS.

Chairs Dela Cruz and Espero, Vice Chairs Slom and Baker, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) offers comments on SCR 5/SR 5, which requests DBEDT to work with construction industry representatives to make existing State and County permitting processes more efficient, timely and uniform.

While improvement of the permit approval process for clean energy projects is a DBEDT priority and a portion of the State Energy Office's Executive Budget is dedicated to such improvements, DBEDT notes that conducting such an effort for construction in general would need to include surveys of construction firms in the State, which could cost the State about \$100,000. Because SCR 5/SR 5 does not provide resources to DBEDT, or to the affected State and County agencies that review the various permitting processes, and DBEDT does not have a

program that focuses on general construction, DBEDT's ability to respond to the broad scope of SCR 5/SR 5 will be limited to what can be done within current budget parameters.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments on SCR 5/SR 5.