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IN REPLY REFER TO:
OCS 16.1208

January 27, 2016

The Honorable Mark N. Nakashima, Chair,
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair,
and Members
Committee on Labor and Public Employment
Hawaii House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**SUBJECT: TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1752 – RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Hearing: January 29, 2016, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 309

Dear Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole,
and Members of the Committee:

House Bill 1752 provides funding and a full-time equivalent position as grant administration support personnel for the Office of Community Services in the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), Office of Community Services (OCS) supports the intent of this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

OCS was created by the 1985 Legislature to administer a variety State and Federal grants to provide programs for those in need. Our programs presently range from the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program to a wide array of Grants-In-Aid (GIAs). We presently have more than 100 contracts that our team is managing with organizations delivering services across the state.

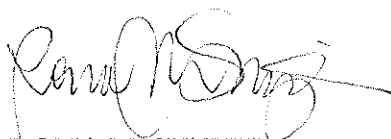
DLIR/OCS has historically been one of the top three departments assigned the most GIAs for administration each year. Approximately 50 percent of our active contracts in a year are for GIAs.

We welcome this opportunity to discuss how we may better leverage our grant and contract management knowledge to provide additional services to communities in need.

The Honorable Mark N. Nakashima, Chair,
The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair,
and Members
Committee on Labor and Public Employment
January 27, 2016
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Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 1752.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rona M. Suzuki", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

RONA M. SUZUKI
Executive Director



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII
The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment
Friday, January 29, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.
Conference Room 309, State Capitol**

RE: HOUSE BILL 1752 RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** HB 1752, which appropriates general revenue for one full-time equivalent position as grant administrative support personnel in the office of community services for fiscal year 2016-2017.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

We support the additional position and funds for the Office of Community Services. The office has a broad range of duties that reach deep into the community in working with many non-profit and government agencies. We believe that the additional resources will help the office in fulfilling its mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.