



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
ACTING DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PLANNING

Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Acting Director, Office of Planning
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, April 1, 2015
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of

**SB 1074 SD1, HD1
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the House Committee on Finance.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 1074 SD1, HD1, which tasks OP with conducting a comprehensive review of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 226, the State Planning Act, to include: (1) the analysis of a wide array of state policies and programs, county plans and programs, functional plans, capital improvements programs, and significant issues confronting the State with respect to the State Planning Act and its implementation; and (2) soliciting proposals for amendments to the State Planning Act from the general public pursuant to HRS § 226-54. OP is to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature prior to the 2017 legislative session.

HRS Chapter 226 was enacted in 1978, after a multi-year, cross-sector effort to develop goals and policies to guide the development of the State and to establish an integrated planning and implementation system to deliver on those policies. The last review of HRS Chapter 226 was initiated in 1983 and completed in 1985, and resulted in the enactment of legislation to fine

tune the goals, policies, and objectives of Part I and priority guidelines of Part III of the State Planning Act.

Since then, there have been significant changes in Hawaii's economic, physical, and social conditions, technology, and the global marketplace, as well as in the constraints and opportunities the State faces as we plan for the future. Every legislative session there are individual bills proposing new policies and revisions to existing policies to address changes in our planning environment. A comprehensive review of the State Planning Act—with respect to how it aligns with current and emerging conditions and issues and its effectiveness in addressing the needs of Hawaii's people and providing for Hawaii's future—is long overdue.

The Office of Planning respectfully requests that the initial appropriation amount of \$250,000 for both fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 be inserted in order to complete the comprehensive review. These funds are required as currently OP lacks the staff and resources to undertake a project of this scope. A rigorous evaluation of the State Planning Act will require an investment of public and private resources. Development of the original plan included thorough topic area studies, statewide collaboration, and input by subject matter experts. The office estimates that the proposed appropriation amounts being requested would be sufficient to accomplish this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, April 1, 2015
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of
SB 1074, SD1, HD1
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the House Committee on Finance.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports SB 1074, SD1, HD1, that tasks the Office of Planning (OP) with conducting a comprehensive review of Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 226, the State Planning Act, to include: (1) the analysis of a wide array of state policies and programs, county plans and programs, functional plans, capital improvements programs, and significant issues confronting the State with respect to the State Planning Act and its implementation; and (2) soliciting proposals for amendments to the State Planning Act from the general public pursuant to HRS § 226-54. OP is to submit a report of its findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, if any, to the Legislature prior to the 2017 legislative session.

HRS Chapter 226 was enacted in 1978, after a multi-year, cross-sector effort to develop goals and policies to guide the development of the State and to establish an integrated planning and implementation system to deliver on those policies. The last review of HRS Chapter 226 was initiated in 1983 and completed in 1985, and resulted in the enactment of legislation to fine tune the goals, policies, and objectives of Part I and priority guidelines of Part III of the State Planning Act.

Since then, there have been significant changes in Hawaii's economic, physical, and social conditions, technology, and the global marketplace, as well as in the constraints and opportunities the State faces as we plan for the future. Every legislative session there are individual bills proposing new policies and revisions to existing policies to address changes in our planning environment. A comprehensive review of the State Planning Act—with respect to how it aligns with current and emerging conditions and issues and its effectiveness in addressing the needs of Hawaii's people and providing for Hawaii's future—is long overdue.

Initially, the measure included an appropriation amount of \$250,000 for both fiscal years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 to OP in order to complete the comprehensive review. These funds would be required as OP lacks the staff and resources to undertake a project of this scope at this time. A rigorous evaluation of the State Planning Act will require an investment of public and private resources. Development of the original plan included thorough topic area studies, statewide collaboration, and input by subject matter experts. OP estimates that the proposed appropriation amounts proposed above would be sufficient to accomplish this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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of the
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Statement of
KIMI YUEN
President, American Planning Association Hawaii Chapter
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
April 1, 2015

in consideration of
SB 1074
RELATING TO STATE PLANNING

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto and Members of the House Committee on Finance:

The Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association supports SB1074 which tasks the Office of Planning to review and update the Hawaii State Planning Act and continue efforts to develop goals and policies to guide the development of the State.

The Hawaii State Plan was enacted with the stated purpose to “serve as a guide for the future long-range development of the State; identify the goals, objectives, policies, and priorities for the State; provide a basis for determining priorities and allocating limited resources, such as public funds, services, human resources, land, energy, water, and other resources; improve coordination of federal, state, and county plans, policies, programs, projects, and regulatory activities; and to establish a system for plan formulation and program coordination to provide for an integration of all major state, and county activities.”

If the Hawaii State Plan is to have meaning and relevance, it must be updated periodically to ensure that its goals and policies are reflective of the current needs and aspirations of Hawaii’s residents and businesses. Significant changes have occurred in Hawaii since the last comprehensive update to the plan in 1985. Since then, we have seen our resident population increase by over 370,000 persons, annual visitor arrivals have increased by over 3,400,000 persons, the agricultural industry has transitioned from large sugarcane and pineapple plantations to smaller, diversified farms, advances in technology has transformed our economy and daily lives, and five Governors have been elected, each bringing new programs and policies.

Given these transformative changes that have occurred over the last 30 years, a review of the State Plan and its relationship to state policies and programs, functional plans, and county plans is long overdue.

We respectfully request that you support passage of SB 1074, and appropriate sufficient funding in the Bill to enable the Office of Planning to complete this task.

*founded in 1962, the
hawai'i chapter has over
300 members, including
planning officials, public
and private sector planners,
and community advocates,
on the major islands
across the state*

**e mālama pono i ka 'āina;
nānā mai ke ola**
*take good care of the land;
it grants you life*