

SB 1288

Establishes the Hawaii Pacific small business consortium to support small business in Hawaii and the Pacific Rim.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
**Senate Committees on Economic Development and Technology
and Tourism and International Affairs**
Friday, February 6, 2015
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of
SB1288
RELATING TO BUSINESS.

Chairs Wakai and Kahele, Vice Chairs Slom and English, and members of the Senate Committees on Economic Development and Technology and Tourism and International Affairs.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) would like to offer comments on SB1288. This bill proposes to establish the Hawaii Pacific Small Business Consortium within DBEDT to help small businesses obtain government contracts and to develop business opportunities for small businesses by combining their resources to offer services and solutions to the federal, state, and county governments and the commercial sector.

DBEDT believes that a vibrant small business environment is essential to a healthy economy. The Department recognizes the financial commitment needed to effectuate this bill but defers to the Department of Budget and Finance with respect to the impact to the State's financial plan.

With respect to government contracting, services similar to this bill are being provided by the Hawaii Procurement Technical Assistance Center in Hawaii (HI-PTAC) through a grant from the U.S. Department of Defense's Defense Logistics Agency. Since 2008, HI-PTAC-Hawaii has played an active role assisting Hawaii businesses to effectively compete for government contracts and to maximize partnerships between eligible small businesses and prime contractors.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.