



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Testimony in SUPPORT of BILL S.B. 976

**RELATING TO TIER II FILING FEES FOR REPORTING OF HAZARDOUS
SUBSTANCES**

SENATOR JILL N. TOKUDA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: February 24, 2017
Time: 1:30 PM

Room Number: 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure proposes to increase the annual TIER II Chemical Inventory
2 Reporting Filing Fee from \$100 to \$200.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Department strongly supports this measure to increase the Hawaii
4 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (HEPCRA) Act Tier II annual filing fee
5 from \$100 to \$200 in order to provide adequate emergency preparedness funding to Local Area
6 Planning Committees (LEPCs) in the face of rising operational and equipment costs. The LEPCs
7 rely on these fees as their primary source of funding to do their part to keep their counties safe.

8 In FY 2014, 889 total facilities (civilian and military) paid a total of \$68,300 in filing fees, which
9 were deposited into the environmental response revolving fund. DOH transferred funds to the
10 LEPCs in FY 2016 in proportion to the number of facilities per county, pursuant to section
11 128E-9, HRS.

12 The Tier II filings fees are used by the county LEPCs to conduct joint emergency planning
13 response training, purchase specialized equipment, and for hazardous materials emergency
14 preparedness activities. The \$100 flat filing fee has not changed since the program began
15 collecting fees in 1993. With inflation rising 70% over the past 27 years, the funding to LEPCs is
16 no longer adequate to cover present day costs of specialized equipment, training and travel
17 required to maintain the emergency preparedness and response capabilities of the county first
18 responders that respond to hazardous materials incidents statewide.

19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



LATE

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Friday, February 24, 2017
1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 976
**RELATING TO RELATING TO TIER II FILING FEES FOR REPORTING OF
HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES.**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** SB 976, an Administration measure which changes the Hawaii Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (HEPCRA) Tier II filing fee from \$100 to \$200, to provide needed preparedness resources to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs).

The Tier II filings fees are used by the county LEPCs to conduct joint emergency planning response training, purchase specialized equipment, and for hazardous materials emergency preparedness activities. The \$100 flat filing fee has not changed since the program began collecting fees in 1993.

As a member of the Hawaii State Emergency Response Commission which is responsible for implementing HEPCRA provisions within the State, DBEDT appreciates that the LEPCs rely on these fees as their primary source of funding to do their part to keep their counties safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer **support** on SB 976.