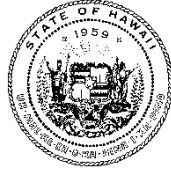


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



RODERICK K. BECKER  
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF  
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEES ON  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, AND TECHNOLOGY  
AND  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
ON  
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017  
2:45 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 224

S.C.R. 135 and S.R. 56

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO ENSURE SOLE AUTHORITY OVER DISBURSEMENTS AND ISSUANCE OF CHECKS FROM THE TOURISM SPECIAL FUND.

Chairs Wakai and Kim, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and Ruderman, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.C.R. 135 and S.R. 56.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the measures. The state agencies named in the resolutions have already begun to meet on this matter, and will continue to work together to fulfill the stated goals and objectives. DAGS notes that because Act 102, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, has already reenacted language providing that the tourism special fund is established within the state treasury, no further legislation would be needed to reestablish the fund within the state treasury.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.



March 27, 2017

The Honorable Glenn Wakai  
Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
Members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations

**Re: Comments Regarding S.C.R. 135 and S.R. 56**

Aloha Chair Wakai, Chair Mercado Kim and Committee Members,

I would like to respectfully offer my comments regarding Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 135 and Senate Resolution No. 56.

The Board of Directors for the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) are appointed by our State lawmakers to serve in this capacity in support of Hawai'i's most important industry.

It is an honor to serve on this board and a responsibility we take very seriously. We are committed to fulfilling HTA's statutory and fiduciary responsibilities to the State of Hawai'i.

As Board Chair for HTA, I want to assure the members of these committees that the Board of Directors will oversee the transition of check-writing responsibilities to the Department of Accounting and General Services and ensure this process is completed as expeditiously as possible.

I appreciate you considering my comments in evaluating S.C.R. 135 and S.R. 56.

Mahalo,

L. Richard Fried  
Board Chair  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority



Hawai'i Convention Center  
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815  
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**kelepa'i** fax 808 973 2253  
**kahua pa'a** web [hawaii-tourism-authority.org](http://hawaii-tourism-authority.org)

**David Y. Ige**  
*Governor*

**George D. Szigeti**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Statement of  
**George D. Szigeti**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority

on

**SR56/SCR135 Regarding Disbursements and Issuance of Checks from the  
Tourism Special Fund**

Senate Committees on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology &  
Government Operations

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

2:45 p.m.

Conference Room 224

Chairs Wakai and Mercado Kim, Vice-Chairs Taniguchi and Ruderman, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority ("HTA") offers the following **comments on** SR56/SCR135, which seeks a resolution by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, that the Department of Accounting and General Services ("DAGS"), Department of Budget and Finance, and Attorney General are requested to ensure that DAGS has the sole authority to issue checks from the Tourism Special Fund.

HTA is currently working with DAGS to transition check writing responsibilities to DAGS. Therefore, the resolution is not necessary.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.