



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [www.hawaii.gov/dbedt](http://www.hawaii.gov/dbedt)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

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Statement of  
**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON**  
**VETERANS, MILITARY & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS & CULTURE AND THE**  
**ARTS AND**  
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS**

Wednesday, March 21, 2018  
10:15 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of

**HCR 172 / HR 144**  
**REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT OF**  
**BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO EVALUATE THE**  
**SISTER-STATE PROGRAM AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE**  
**CAPACITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE MUTUALLY**  
**BENEFICIAL INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS.**

Chairs LoPresti and Evans, Vice Chairs Fukumoto and Keohokalole, and Members of the  
Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT supports  
the intent of HCR 172 / HR 144, which requests the Hawaii Sister-State Committee and DBEDT  
to evaluate the Sister-State program and make recommendations to improve the capacity and  
sustainability of the efforts to promote mutually beneficial international relationships.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.