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**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Thursday, February 9, 2017
3:05 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1170
RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**

Senate Bill 1170 proposes to expand the reporting requirements for studies or audits done by executive agencies and funded by the Legislature and require that the subject committee chair hold a public meeting on the reports. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) notes that it provides reports to any legislator, upon request, and many of the reports are accessible on the Department's website (<http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/reports/>). It is also the Department's practice to provide information on reports if requested by a legislative committee.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR

LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

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EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN COMMENTS

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON SENATE BILL NO. 1170

February 9, 2017

3:05 p.m.

Conference Room 224

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

S.B. 1170 requires a public hearing or informational briefing on certain audit reports and studies enacted with an appropriation within one year of the receipt of the report or study in order to properly review and consider the information provided therein.

We will not opine on the merits of this proposal. However, our department responds to myriad information requests from legislative committees during the legislative process, particularly as part of the development of the annual executive budget. Such information has historically been considered confidential working papers. We would seek an appropriate amendment within this bill that assures our responses to such information requests will not be considered reports within the scope of this proposal, as we believe that is not the intent of this measure.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
The Honorable Russell E. Ruderman, Vice Chair

S.B. No. 1170, Relating to Government Accountability

Hearing: Thursday, February 9, 2017, 3:05 p.m.

The Office of the Auditor **supports** S.B. No. 1170, Relating to Government Accountability, which requires, among other things, the relevant subject matter committee to convene a public hearing or informational briefing on studies and audits enacted with a legislative appropriation within one year of the legislature's receipt of the report.

Every year, we conduct performance and other types of audits of a number of state agencies and their respective programs. Those audits, generally, examine whether state officials are managing government resources and are using their authority in compliance with laws and regulations; whether government programs are achieving their objectives; and whether the agency or program is providing effective, efficient, economical, ethical, and equitable service. We report our findings in audit reports submitted to the legislature, the governor, and the affected state agency. The audit reports, which are public records, are also accessible through our website. Where we find issues with an agency's performance, we report those findings and make recommendations to address those issues. The audited agencies are afforded the opportunity to provide their written response to the audit's findings and recommendations, which is incorporated into and made part of the final report.

Our reports provide transparency and accountability to the legislature, the governor, and more importantly, the public. Requiring a public hearing or informational briefing on the audit reports will increase government transparency and accountability, which we strongly support. We also suggest that a public review of the reports will encourage agencies to more timely address the audit findings and recommendations.

Accordingly, we support S.B. No. 1170.

Thank you for considering our testimony related to S.B. No. 1170.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 8:51 AM
To: GVO Testimony
Cc: rkailianu57@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1170 on Feb 9, 2017 15:05PM*

SB1170

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for GVO on Feb 9, 2017 15:05PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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