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DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

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

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY LAUREL A. JOHNSTON
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2603, S.D. 1

LATE

**February 21, 2018
10:10 a.m.
Room 211**

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

Senate Bill No. 2603, S.D. 1, requires any report of a study or an audit enacted with a legislative appropriation and conducted by an executive department or agency, including the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, and by the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB), Auditor, Judiciary, or Office of Hawaiian Affairs, be submitted to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, Chairs of the appropriate subject matter committee of each Chamber, and LRB Library. The bill also requires the Chairs of the appropriate subject matter committees of each Chamber to hold a public hearing or informational briefing on the report within one year of receipt of the report. The bill allows a one-year extension or waiver of the public hearing or informational briefing requirement to be granted subject to posting the reasons for the extension or waiver on the Legislature's website and on the public notice boards at the Capitol.

The Department of Budget and Finance offers the following comments. The various executive departments presently submit to the legislative leadership, reports that are required via Hawaii Revised Statutes, Session Laws, Concurrent Resolutions,

and/or budget provisos. A list of these reports can be found on the Legislative Reference Bureau Library website as the official repository of such reports, pursuant to section 23G-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

While we appreciate the Legislature's desire for follow-up briefings on studies prepared during a legislative interim, given executive departments are presently required to testify at budget briefings, informational meetings, and committee hearings on bills throughout the short sixty-day legislative session, we will potentially face scheduling conflicts to attend additional hearings. As an alternative, we advise that each legislative committee set-aside one hearing for the sole purpose of reviewing the various studies that were submitted within their committee purview. This will allow departments to coordinate their responses and the committees will have current information should legislation be necessary to address critical findings in the studies.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

LATE

SB-2603-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 10:09:33 PM
Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:10:00 AM

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

Comments: