



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
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Written Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND TECHNOLOGY**

Wednesday, February 22, 2017
2:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Room 414

in consideration of
SB 798
RELATING TO TELECOMMUTING.

Chairs Keith-Agaran and Wakai, Vice Chairs Rhoads and Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of SB798, which establishes a temporary telecommuting task force within DBEDT.

While DBEDT agrees that developing incentives to encourage telecommuting opportunities will help alleviate traffic congestion and increase quality of life, it has concerns that there may be more functionally appropriate departments that the task force could be administratively attached.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 22, 2017
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Room 414

S.B. 798
RELATING TO TELECOMUTING

Senate Committees on Judiciary and Labor
& Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 798 which establishes a temporary telecommuting task force to develop incentives and recommendations to encourage and expand telecommuting opportunities in the public and private sectors.

In order to ensure a sound strategy for implementing telecommuting within the Executive Branch, the DOT recommends that lessons learned from an earlier initiative by the Department of Human Resources and Development eight years ago be shared with the subject proposed taskforce.

This earlier initiative resulted in little or no progress within the Executive Branch, mainly due to liability and cost issues associated with implementation. There were also change management issues, in that supervisors and managers were reluctant to oversee their employees remotely.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi
Director

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
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State Capitol, Room 446
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Written Comments

SB798 **RELATING TELECOMMUTING**

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director

Presented to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor and
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology

Wednesday, February 22, 2017, 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 414

Chairs Keith-Agaran and Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

Good afternoon Chairs Keith-Agaran and Wakai and members of the Committees, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments on S.B. No. 798, Relating to Telecommuting.

The purpose of this measure is to establish a temporary telecommuting task force that is administratively attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to develop incentives and recommendations to encourage and expand telecommuting opportunities in the public and private sectors.

The measure also requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to provide administrative and staffing support to the telecommuting task force in drafting the report.

The Bureau takes no position on the merits of this measure, but submits the following comments for your consideration.

As a general matter, we note that the task force established in this measure contains no members of the Legislature and will be administratively attached to an executive branch agency. The Bureau is statutorily directed to use its resources and services to assist the Legislature and its members, unless otherwise directed by the Legislature.

Accordingly, we have some concerns with how the measure is currently drafted with respect to the work requested of the Bureau. The measure requires the Bureau to take on the responsibility of providing administrative and staffing support to the telecommuting task force in drafting its report, even though the task force is administratively housed within an executive department. We note that the Bureau lacks the resources to provide any administrative or logistical support to individual Legislators or to outside committees, working groups, or task forces of this nature. Moreover, the Bureau does not possess the facilities to accommodate meetings of a task force, nor do we possess *any priority* for requesting use of any of the conference rooms throughout the Capitol.

If the Committees decide to recommend the passage of this measure, we respectfully request that it be amended to either delete any references to the Bureau from the measure, or limit the Bureau's involvement to assisting the task force with the finalizing of a report and any proposed legislation in relation thereto. Furthermore, if the measure is amended to require the Bureau to finalize the task force's report and draft proposed legislation, we would also request that a draft report be submitted to the Bureau no later than October 1, 2017, so that work on these projects does not adversely impact our ability to provide our core services to the Legislature for the upcoming 2018 Regular Session.

If the measure is amended to address the concerns noted above and the Committees decide to have the Bureau provide report finalization and proposed legislation drafting services, the Bureau believes that the services requested under the measure would be manageable and that the Bureau will be able to provide the services in the time allotted; provided that the Bureau's interim workload is not adversely impacted by too many other studies or additional responsibilities, such as conducting, writing, or finalizing other reports, drafting legislation, or both, for other state agencies, task forces, or working groups that may be requested or required under other legislative measures.

Thank you again for your consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc:
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB798 on Feb 22, 2017 14:00PM
Date: Sunday, February 19, 2017 1:58:47 PM

SB798

Submitted on: 2/19/2017

Testimony for JDL/ETT on Feb 22, 2017 14:00PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Mather	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Jennifer Mather and I live in Lahaina in West Maui. Although we do not have the compounded traffic problems that we see occurring on O'ahu, without proactive initiatives, I fear Maui will continue in the way of our sister island. I support the creation of a telecommuting task force that will reach out to the private sector, especially. We often see initiatives in the public sector that are wholly (or partly) ignored by the private sector but which could benefit both. It is my hope that we can move from centralized bases of business to a network of competent, loyal, and motivated telecommuters guiding Hawai'i further into the global business community beyond just tourism. Mahalo for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Jennifer Mather

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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