



OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Planning Program Administrator, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
Monday, March 11, 2019
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of
HB 842, HD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE PLANNING ACT.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports HB 842 HD1 and respectfully provides comments on the measure which establishes a Hawaii State Planning Act Review Commission to review and make recommendations to the Legislature to update the Hawaii State Planning Act and removes the reference to achieving the viability of Hawaii's sugar and pineapple industries from the Hawaii State Planning Act's agricultural objectives. OP agrees that this bill and its amendment would help to update the Hawaii State Planning Act refocus the goals, objectives, and policies of the State to reflect current cultural, economic, and societal goals and provides the following comments:

1. **Page 2, lines 5-7**, as OP is mandated to carry out Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the Hawaii State Plan, OP requests that language be amended to reflect that the commission be attached to OP:
 - (c) The commission shall be attached to the [department of business, economic development, and tourism] office of planning for administrative purposes.
2. OP would require additional resources in the areas of economics, small and large business administration, Hawaiian culture, environmental protection, tourism and military affairs. Additional manpower and resources will also be necessary for the evaluation and development of recommendations, facilitation of State agencies, and public meetings that the commission wishes to engage in or even in advance by OP or its consultant to obtain public input, before the commission members are seated.

Therefore, OP respectfully requests an appropriation of \$250,000 for each year of the Fiscal Biennium 2019-2021 to carry out the purpose of this measure, as long as its

passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

HB-842-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 2:18:41 PM

Testimony for EET on 3/11/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments: