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David Y. Ige
Governor

Chris Tatum
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
CHRIS TATUM

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

AND

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

Friday, March 22, 2019
3:00pm
State Capitol, Conference Room #414

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 66 AND SENATE RESOLUTION 44

Chair Wakai, Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair English, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, & Tourism and Senate Committee on Technology:

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority appreciates our legislators' confidence in our ability to organize conferences such as our most recent Spring Tourism Update. Our focus has been on developing and delivering conferences that have been focused on tourism. While we understand the desire to hold a global artificial intelligence summit in Hawai'i in 2020, we are not certain that this type of conference would be in alignment with our mission of supporting tourism. We see the value in holding and participating in such a conference, given the advances in technology, but would humbly request that consideration be given to placing the responsibility for such a conference with an agency or department that may have a greater connection to technology.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide our comments.