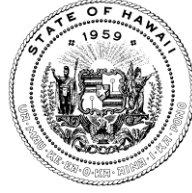


HB 1360 HD2

Measure Title:	RELATING TO FISCAL BIENNIUM 2019-2021 BUDGET REQUESTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS.
Report Title:	State Operating Budget; DCCA Programs; CCA103; CCA107; CCA110; CCA111; CCA112; CCA191; CCA901; CPC(\$)
Description:	Appropriates funds for the fiscal biennium 2019-2021 operating budget of Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs programs under the purview of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce. (HB1360 HD2)
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	CPH/WAM
Introducer(s):	TAKUMI, ICHIYAMA



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
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JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
and
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 2, 2019
10:20 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**On the following measure:
H.B. 1360, H.D. 2, RELATING TO FISCAL BIENNIUM 2019-2021 BUDGET
REQUESTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

Chairs Baker and Dela Cruz and Members of the Committees:

My name is Catherine Awakuni Colón, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA or Department). The purpose of this bill is to establish additional amounts to be appropriated or authorized and additional positions for the fiscal biennium 2019-2021 operating budget of the DCCA.

The Department supports this bill and respectfully requests adding the appropriations that are not contained in H.B. 2, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1, such as the following appropriations:

CCA-103. The Department requests an appropriation out of the Compliance Resolution Fund (CRF) of \$292,000 for fiscal year (FY) 2019-2020 and \$584,000 for FY 2020-2021 for the Division of Consumer Advocacy (DCA) to fund five permanent positions in its division: one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) attorney; one full-time

equivalent (1.0 FTE) administrative specialist; and three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) program specialists. These additional positions would help meet the DCA's increasing workload, both in terms of volume and complexity, and its cases before the Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission).

CCA-111. The Department requests an appropriation out of the CRF of \$83,368 for FY 2019-2020 and the same sum for FY 2020-2021 for the Business Registration Division (BREG) to convert an office assistant III position to a securities staff attorney position to address an increase in the number and complexity of financial fraud schemes occurring in the State.

CCA-901. The Department requests an appropriation out of the PUC Special Fund of \$200,240 for FY 2019-2020 and \$195,840 for FY 2020-2021 for the Commission to fund two permanent full-time equivalent (2.00 FTE) positions, as authorized by Act 201, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, to support the monitoring of motor vehicle carrier activity.

CCA-901. The Department requests an appropriation out of the PUC Special Fund of \$292,000 for FY 2019-2020 and \$584,000 for FY 2020-2021 for the Commission to expend to the DCA, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes section 269-33(a), which provides that the Commission is the administering agency of the PUC Special Fund.

Finally, the Department notes that the reserves and anticipated revenues of CCA-103, CCA-111, and CCA-901 will sufficiently cover their budget requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

TESTIMONY OF
JAMES P. GRIFFIN, Ph.D.
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
AND
WAYS AND MEANS

April 2, 2019
10:20 a.m.

Chairs Baker, Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committees:

MEASURE: H.B. No. 1360 HD2

TITLE: RELATING TO FISCAL BIENNIUM 2019-2021 BUDGET REQUESTS
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS.

DESCRIPTION: Appropriates funds for the fiscal biennium 2019-2021 operating budget of Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs programs under the purview of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce. (HB1360 HD2)

POSITION:

The Public Utilities Commission is in **support** of this measure offers the following comments for consideration.

COMMENTS:

The purpose of this bill is to establish additional amounts to be appropriated or authorized and additional positions for the fiscal biennium 2019 - 2021 operating budget of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA"). As an agency administratively attached to the DCCA, the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") is in support of this measure.

The Commission understands that the DCCA has submitted testimony in support of this bill, which describes the DCCA's requested appropriations that are not contained in H.B. 2, C.D. 1, including the Commission's requests. Specifically, the Commission requests

appropriations to (1) convert two temporary enforcement positions (effective July 1, 2018 for one year by Act 201 SLH 2018) to permanent positions (the requested amounts are \$200,240 and \$195,840 in FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021, respectively), and (2) increase the Commission's appropriation ceiling to expend funds for five new positions within the Division of Consumer Advocacy (the requested amounts are \$292,000 and \$584,000 in FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021, respectively).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.