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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  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Wednesday, February 19, 2020  
4:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room #308

In consideration of  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 2467 HD2**  
**RELATING TO TOURISM**

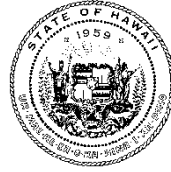
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Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee on Finance: the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) **supports** House Bill 2467 HD2, which requires HTA to collaborate with the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) to identify an appropriate location for and open a tourism information booth or center in the State Capital District to promote tourism and tourist destinations in that district.

HB2467 HD2 would help Hawai'i in its efforts to improve the experience for our visitors. Information booths or centers have proven to be effective and beneficial in helping visitors make the most of their experience. It'll be a place where our visitors can go if they get lost or want advice. This would also help us get a better sense of the issues and questions our visitors have and will provide us with an opportunity to promote tourist destinations in the State Capital District.

It is for these reasons that HTA **supports** HB2467 HD2. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
Comptroller  
AUDREY HIDANO  
Deputy Comptroller

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
CURT T. OTAGURO, STATE COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020, 4:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 308, STATE CAPITOL

H.B. 2467, HD2

RELATING TO TOURISM

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2467, HD2.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports H.B. 2467, HD2 which enables the DAGS to assist the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) to identify an appropriate location to open a tourism information booth or center in the State Capitol district to promote tourism and tourist destinations.

The DAGS offers the following comments:

1. In addition to HTA, other stakeholders should be included in the planning of a tourism information booth or center. Additional stakeholders should include but are not limited to Iolani Palace, State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Washington Place, Hawaii State Archives and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.
2. The collaboration of these various stakeholders will maximize State resources to provide our visitors with the best possible educational and tourist experience when visiting the State Capitol district. As the State Archives, the Legislated keeper of Public Memory, is

also seeking funding for a Master Plan to, potentially, include display/museum/education space, we strongly feel that there is synergy between these initiatives. Both of these initiatives could and should, from our view, coexist in the same facility and potentially same program. The Archives is traditionally a place of knowledge dissemination on the great history of Hawaii — politically, socially and geographically, and is seeking to do so on a larger scale. Thereby visitors would hear about and experience the rich history and culture of the State of Hawaii at a centralized location.

3. The wealth and depth of historical documents and artifacts held by the State Archives, along with the aforementioned stakeholders, if properly presented, can prove to be a great asset to the State by showcasing the diverse history of Hawaii and present the State as a wonderful place to visit, live and work.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

**HB-2467-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/16/2020 4:29:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/19/2020 4:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

There are so many tourists that get off the bus at Punchbowl and Beretania. They have no idea of all the wonderful sites and places that they can explore in downtown. It would be a great addition to the area. I support this idea.

**LATE**

**HB-2467-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/19/2020 11:05:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/19/2020 4:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ruston Utu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of this bill. I believe that having a tourism booth would be beneficial and it could give those visiting more information about the state capitol. It would also be a good way to keep track of how much tourists actually come to visit.