

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO
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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

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

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021, 1:30 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 1015, S.D. 2, H.D. 1

RELATING TO THE COMPTROLLER.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of S.B. 1015, S.D.2, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) recognizes that teleworking during the pandemic has resulted in some significant successes, and we have already begun the process of re-assessing space needs and leasing decisions for the post-pandemic future in DAGS-managed facilities. Progress has been slower than desired because of increased vacancies and defunded positions. We believe in this initiative to better utilize office space and will work with programs to determine their workplace requirements balanced against teleworking practices.

DAGS appreciates this initial legislative support for our efforts, and we look forward to expanded financial support to ensure our positions continue to be funded for expedited filling of our current and future anticipated vacancies, and to fund both consultant services to develop teleworking infrastructure requirements and program relocation costs necessary to implement

lease consolidation. In addition, the amended date of July 1, 2026, to reduce total square footage of space leased by the State by twenty-five percent is not enough time if renovation to the buildings are required. This effort requires additional time, design and construction funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.