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Written Testimony of
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Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

SENATE BILL 797
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Dear Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee:

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) supports this bill, which provides the chief information officer authority to approve, or expedite the approval process of, a state agency's management information system project budgeted at or more than \$1,000,000, or any other project the chief information officer deems necessary to expedite, by coordinating and focusing appropriate state personnel and resources. And requires the chief information officer to annually report the status of all pending or completed projects over \$1,000,000, including whether they are on time and on budget.

This measure puts into law key portions of the present State IT Governance review process in the Governor's Administrative Directive No. 18-03, Program Governance and Independent Verification and Validation Requirements for Enterprise Information Technology Projects, dated September 25, 2018, where information technology and telecommunications acquisition requests meet specified review criteria, such as the \$1,000,000 cost threshold.

Adding the annual reporting requirement to the Legislature for these projects will highlight positive results of the IT Governance process that identifies, prioritizes and advances innovative IT initiatives that increase efficiency, reduce waste, and improve transparency and accountability in state government.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

TRANSFORM
HAWAI'I GOVERNMENT
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February 11, 2021

Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Chair
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Hawai'i State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony supporting SB 797, Relating to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services

Chair Moriwaki, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Committee Members:

My name is Christine Sakuda and I serve as the executive director of Transform Hawai'i Government (THG), a coalition of organizations and individuals who advocate for an accessible, accountable and responsive state government that leverages technology to help citizens, communities, and businesses throughout Hawai'i to thrive. We provide a consistent and persistent voice to keep modernization a top priority of state government.

THG supports SB 797, Relating to the Office of Enterprise Technology Services which provides the chief information officer with the authority to approve, or expedite the approval process of, a state agency's management information system project that is budgeted at or more than \$1,000,000, or any other project the chief information officer deems necessary to expedite, by coordinating and focusing appropriate state personnel and resources. It also requires the chief information officer to annually report the status of all pending or completed projects over \$1,000,000, including whether they are on time and on budget.

THG has made long-term investments in promoting efficient and effective digital government in Hawai'i. Expediting the approval of large information system projects creates central visibility which critical for finding economies of scale across the government system and is integral to fulfilling the Hawaii Information Technology Strategic Plan, which we played a role in helping to initiate. We believe that the bill is an important step toward meeting the objectives of the plan.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it abundantly clear that improvements can be made in the way government serves its citizens and that technology is an important part of improving access to government services. We believe that now is the time to commit to developing long-term vision, goals, and objectives to fast forward the economic and social recovery in a way that creates new opportunities well beyond the challenges we face today. Please favorably consider Senate Bill 797.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony supporting this important bill.

Respectfully submitted,



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