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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Friday, March 11, 2022
3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

in consideration of
GM 727
Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, COLLEEN MCALUNEY, for term to expire 06-30-2025.

Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Misalucha and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) **strongly supports** GM 727, which submits for consideration and confirmation to the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Advisory Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, Ms. Colleen McAluney, for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Ms. McAluney has volunteered to serve on the CBED Advisory Council to fill a Honolulu County representative position.

Ms. McAluney is recognized in the community as an organizational program director, small business champion, and business inclusion advocate. She is currently the Director of the Patsy T. Mink Center for Business & Leadership (MCBL), whose mission is to equip women to become successful entrepreneurs and leaders by providing one-on-one business counseling, innovative workshops and unique, specialized programs in a nurturing environment. In her seven years at MCBL, Ms. McAluney has spearheaded and revamped signature programs such as Launch My Business (LMB) and Grow My Business (GMB) to meet the needs of today's rapidly evolving entrepreneurial landscape and the HORIZONS program designed to help business owners achieve greater business success through strong branding, financial management and profitability.

As the Executive Committee Vice Chair, Ms. McAluney has also been involved in the Shop Small Hawaii program, which is a community initiative and program under the MCBL that provides support to Hawaii's small business community. The mission of Shop Small Hawaii is

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to provide business resources and tools to small business owners in Hawaii through educational workshops, promotions & special events in collaboration with community partners.

Prior to her work at MCBL Ms. McAluney worked for over 13 years in retail management, which gives her insights into the various issues that small community-based businesses face trying to grow and be successful in Hawaii.

Ms. McAluney has proven herself an effective senior leader experienced in transforming organizations with strategic vision, programs and a focused team. Given her experience, skills, and commitment Ms. McAluney will be a great asset to the CBED Program and CBED Advisory Council.

We ask for your favorable consideration and confirmation of **Ms. Colleen McAluney** to serve on the CBED Advisory Council for a term to expire 06-30-2025.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.