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Statement of
BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Wednesday, March 29, 2023
10:00AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
**HCR156/HR157, REQUESTING THE VARIOUS STATE DEPARTMENTS TO
REEXAMINE THEIR WORK FROM HOME POLICIES TO ALLOW GREATER
FLEXIBILITY TO WORK FROM HOME.**

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Garrett, and the members of the committee.

The Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD) provides comments on HCR156 and HR157.

On behalf of the State of Hawaii Executive Branch, DHRD and the Hawaii Government Employees Association entered into a memorandum of agreement outlining the state's telework program guidelines. As such, any Executive Branch department intending to provide telework opportunities to their employees must follow the negotiated guidelines. Departments are not permitted to establish their own policies without DHRD approval and consultation with HGEA.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on these measures.

HCR-156

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:04:53 PM

Testimony for LGO on 3/29/2023 10:00:00 AM

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lei Tata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT BILL HCR 156 and urge state departments to reexamine their work from home policies to allow greater flexibility to work from home.

As stated in this bill, there are numerous benefits that were cited in working remotely from home. Employees experienced increased efficiency, higher morale, increased retention rates, better work-life balance, and improved proficiency and performance. Not only did this benefit the employee, but it also benefitted the environment. There was less pollution due to a decrease in gas usage which had less of an environmental impact and traffic congestion.

I know that this bill will be beneficial in the long run.