



TESTIMONY OF DANIEL NĀHO'OPI'I
INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO, HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY
Wednesday, March 20, 2024 – 2:00 p.m.

In consideration of

**HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 152/HOUSE RESOLUTION 131
URGING THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY, IN CONSULTATION WITH
THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, TO CONDUCT A STUDY
ON THE SOCIAL AND SAFETY IMPACTS OF GEOTAGGING**

Aloha Chair Perruso, Vice Chair Kapela, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers comments on this measure. We appreciate this committee's consideration of the social and safety impacts of geotagging.

The core of the issue identified by this resolution is the lack of appropriate infrastructure to accommodate large numbers of people – both visitors and residents – in those places where people are welcome, or conversely, the enforcement mechanisms to prevent the unwelcome entry of people into places where visitation is not appropriate.

Resolving this issue goes beyond geotagging technology. However, the better understanding we collectively have of all contributing factors, the better the solutions we can pursue together.

Should this measure advance, we note that funding for such a study would be required as we do not have the resources in-house to complete such a study. We request that funding be appropriated for this study, provided it does not adversely affect the administration's budget priorities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer these comments on this measure.