S.R. NO. 134

MAR 0 8 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON DISALLOWING THE DIVIDENDS PAID DEDUCTION FOR REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS.

WHEREAS, real estate investment trusts were established by 1 the federal government to give investors, especially small 2 3 investors, access to income-producing real estate; and 4 5 WHEREAS, the Internal Revenue Code allows a dividends paid deduction to the real estate investment trust, thereby allowing 6 7 the real estate investment trust to not pay tax on income distributed to its shareholders, who would then pay tax on that 8 9 income; and 10 11 WHEREAS, existing state law conforms to these provisions but creates an anomaly because a real estate investment trust 12 that does business in Hawaii and pays dividends to shareholders 13 outside the State results in no Hawaii income tax collected, 14 15 because shareholders pay tax on dividends to the state in which they reside, not where the income was generated; and 16 17 18 WHEREAS, while some real estate investment trusts that do business in Hawaii have shareholders who reside in the State, a 19 substantial majority do not; and 20 21 WHEREAS, real estate investment trusts own more real estate 22 in Hawaii per capita than in any other state; now, therefore, 23 24 25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second 26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the Department of Taxation is requested to conduct a study 27 28 on the advantages and disadvantages of disallowing the dividends 29 paid deduction for real estate investment trusts; and 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the study is requested to estimate 31 the change in revenue collected by the State after disallowing 32 the dividends paid deduction, including the impact to the amount 33 of general excise taxes collected from the operation of hotels 34 owned by real estate investment trusts, other corporate income 35



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tax deductions that real estate investment trusts could take, 1 2 and any differences in the levels of maintenance and capital 3 improvements to properties between real estate investment trusts 4 and non-real estate investment trust owners; and 5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study consider other 6 states' treatment of the dividends paid deduction for real 7 estate investment trusts, and any impacts or effects resulting 8 therefrom; and 9 10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study consider possible 11 exceptions to disallowing the dividends paid deduction for real 12 estate investment trusts, and any impacts or effects resulting 13 therefrom; and 14 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this 16 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Taxation. 17 18 19 20 OFFERED BY: