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TESTIMONY OF
DANIEL NĀHO'OPI'I
Interim President & CEO
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 18, 2025
10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of
SB 1536 SD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) supports SB 1536 SD 1, which repeals exemptions of the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority from the State's Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and sets the effective date to July 1, 2050.

Removing these exemptions ensures that all state employees, regardless of their position, contribute to and benefit from the ERS equally. This also allows the search for the President and CEO to proceed and addresses the urgent need to fill a position that has been vacant for over a year.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share our support of SB 1536 SD 1.