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TESTIMONY OF  
**DANIEL NĀHO'OPI'I**  
Interim President & CEO  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM  
AND  
LABOR & TECHNOLOGY**

Thursday, February 6, 2025  
1:10 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 229

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

Aloha Chairs DeCoite and Aquino, Vice Chairs Wakai and Lee, and members of the Committees,

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) supports SB 1536, 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).

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.

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