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INTERIM STADIUM MANAGER

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

Statement of
CHRIS J. SADAYASU
Interim Stadium Manager
Stadium Authority
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 26, 2025
10:03 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
S.B. 1589, SD1
RELATING TO THE STADIUM DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL FUND.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee.
The Stadium Authority provides the following comments regarding Senate Bill 1589, SD1 which requires that any conditions imposed by the Legislature on appropriations to the Stadium Development Special Fund be met before expenditure. The Bill also appropriates \$49.5M in budget ceiling for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 but subjects expenditures by the Stadium Authority from the Stadium Development Special Fund on the completion of specific project readiness conditions.

Act 248, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, appropriated \$350 million of general obligation bond funding for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and \$49.5 million of general funds for the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) project. While the general obligation bond funds are blanket-encumbered and will fund the stadium development and operations agreement and master development agreement for the

NASED project, the \$49.5 million in general funds has been deposited in the Stadium Development Special Fund and has been reserved for project consultant fees, construction management services and contingency costs for the project. The Stadium Authority supports the proposed increased Stadium Development Special Fund ceiling to contract these expenditures. With respect to the addition of conditions on the expenditure of such appropriations, our primary concern is that these conditions are unknown and unspecified at this time.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.