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**TESTIMONY OF ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA, OMBUDSMAN,
ON S.B. NO. 1637, A BILL FOR AN ACT
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Chair McKelvey and Members of the Committee on Government Operations:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on S.B. No. 1637, which would amend the definition of “administrative act” in Section 96-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to specify that “administrative act” includes the lease of State lands, including non-agricultural park lands under Chapter 166E, HRS.

“Administrative act” is already broadly defined to include any action or decision by an agency under the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman. Therefore, the Ombudsman can already investigate the leasing of State lands by the Department of Agriculture or any other State executive branch agency, and the proposed amendment is not necessary.

Consequently, I respectfully request that this Committee hold S.B. No. 1637.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.