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BRENNON T. MORIOKA
CHAIR, STADIUM AUTHORITY

CHRIS J. SADAYASU
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, April 2, 2025
10:01 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
H.B. 1494, HD3, SD1
RELATING TO SPORTS FACILITIES.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee.
The Stadium Authority provides the following comments regarding House Bill 1494, HD3, 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 (NASD) project. While the general obligation bond funds are 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.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

APRIL 2, 2025, 10:01 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

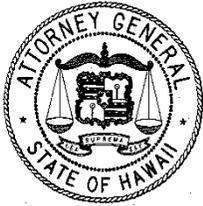
H.B. 1494, H.D.3, S.D. 1

RELATING TO SPORTS FACILITIES.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. 1494, H.D.3, S.D.1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) joins with the Stadium Authority in appreciation and **support** for this S.D.1 version of this bill. We defer to the testimony of the Stadium Authority for further comments on this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1494, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, RELATING TO SPORTS FACILITIES.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Wednesday, April 2, 2025

TIME: 10:01 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY.**

(For more information, contact Kevin C. Tongg,
Deputy Attorney General, at 808-586-1180)

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments.

The original purposes of this bill were to: (1) lapse appropriations totaling \$370,000,000 for the development of a new stadium on the lands in Halawa owned by the Stadium Authority; (2) appropriate funds out of the Halawa redevelopment special fund (as renamed pursuant to this bill) to be deposited into the general fund; (3) authorize the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds, and appropriate moneys for fiscal year 2025-2026 to be expended by the University of Hawaii to upgrade the football stadium at the University of Hawaii at Manoa; (4) rename the Stadium Authority to the Halawa Redevelopment Authority; and (5) amend the Halawa Redevelopment Authority's powers to focus more on general redevelopment of the district instead of the redevelopment and operations of a stadium.

The purposes of this bill, as amended in S.D. 1, are now to: (1) require the Stadium Authority to meet any condition imposed by the Legislature on an appropriation to the stadium development special fund; (2) appropriate moneys out of the stadium development special fund to the Stadium Authority for fiscal year 2025-2026, subject to the completion of specific project readiness conditions; and (3) provide safeguards to

ensure that unexpended and unencumbered funds in the special fund are returned to the general fund if the project is terminated.

In League of Women Voters of Honolulu v. State, 150 Hawai'i 182, 205, 499 P.3d 382, 405 (2021), the Hawai'i Supreme Court held that the constitutional requirement that a bill must pass three readings in each house "begin[s] anew after a non-germane amendment changes the object or subject of a bill so that it is no longer related to the original bill as introduced." Since League of Women Voters of Honolulu, there has been no clarification in the law. Out of an abundance of caution, we would like to note that there is a risk that a court could conclude that the amendments in S.D. 1 are outside the scope of the purpose of the original bill and that the amended bill will violate article III, section 15, of the Hawai'i Constitution if it does not receive three additional readings in each house.

To address this issue, the Department suggests reverting the text of this bill to what was stated in the H.D. 3 version, or in the alternative, if the Committee passes this bill as currently drafted in S.D. 1, then three new readings in each house be given on this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

HB-1494-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2025 8:43:11 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/2/2025 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I am glad to see this bill be substantiatively revised. I believe it is now moving in a much better and more positive direction. I urge the Committee to **SUPPORT** this bill!