



TESTIMONY OF DANIEL NĀHO'OPI'I
INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO, HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 10:01 a.m.
In consideration of
HB 679 HD 1 Proposed SD 2
RELATING TO STATE FUNDS

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

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on HB679 HD1 Proposed SD2. Our comments are limited to the transfer of monies from two funds under HTA responsibility – S-348-B Tourism Special Fund, and S-361-B Convention Center Enterprise Special Fund – to the state general fund.

The amounts proposed for transfer will not negatively impact HTA's operations. We are no longer authorized to access the requested \$1.3 million in unencumbered funds in the Tourism Special Fund, and we understand the \$11 million proposed for transfer from the Convention Center Enterprise Special Fund will fulfill our repayment to the Department of Budget & Finance for their provision of convention center operational funds in FY24.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these comments.