

TESTIMONY OF DANIEL NĀHOʻOPIʻI INTERIM PRESIDENT & CEO, HAWAIʻI TOURISM AUTHORITY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE Thursday, February 8, 2024 2:00 p.m. In consideration of HB 2606 HD 1 RELATING TO TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following comments for consideration on this measure which requires transient accommodations brokers and any other persons or entities to offer, list, advertise, or display a transient accommodations rental rate that includes all resort fees required for the furnishing of transient accommodations.

HTA agrees with the finding in this measure that "fully transparent pricing – from the outset of a consumer's Hawai'i transient accommodations booking journey – is paramount to enjoying a proper experience of aloha."

In the most recently available Visitor Satisfaction and Activity survey – fielded in the third quarter of 2023 – visitors who said they are unlikely to return to Hawai'i identified cost and value as some of their top reasons. We believe that transparency is important in this area.

We stand ready to assist with outreach to the visitor industry should this measure be enacted.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer these comments on this measure.