



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
THEODORE E. LIU
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
and
WATER, LAND & OCEAN RESOURCES**
Thursday, February 5, 2009
10:05 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of

**HB431
RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Chair Morita, Chair Ito, Vice Chair Coffman, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the
Committees.

HB 431 provides for a number of requirements:

- Directs the Energy Resources Coordinator (ERC) to review energy efficiency in building construction, recommend amendments to county building codes and the state building code, and prepare a report of findings and recommendations.
- Directs the ERC to establish energy efficiency guidelines for retro-commissioning and retrofits.
- Requires the state building code to contain the latest edition of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) within six months of its adoption by the International Code Council.
- Requires each county to use the updated IECC.
- Requires the ERC and Department of Accounting and General Services to benchmark each existing state a building of a certain size; and the ERC shall establish efficiency targets 30 percent higher than the most recent IECC.
- Requires existing state buildings to be retro-commissioned no less than every five years with the ERC establishing guidelines and providing annual reports on the buildings.
- Requires energy performance contracts for retro-commissioning to meet energy efficiency standards and directs the Comptroller with duties related to these

requirements. Allows agencies to keep 50 percent of the moneys saved through these retrofits.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) has concerns about HB431. We support the provisions in HB1053, which provides for the Public Benefits Fee Administrator (BPFA) to use \$600,000 of public benefit funds to conduct measurement and verification of buildings, including homes, under the building code to assess code compliance and building performance; conduct surveys of builders to determine actual costs associated with meeting code requirements; assess the feasibility of implementing a net zero energy building code; establish commissioning and retro-commissioning guidelines for energy efficiency; and prepare annual reports with recommendations for code updates and submit these recommendations to the legislature and the State Building Code Council. HB1053 also would direct each state department to benchmark their buildings and to retro-commission buildings every five years. Under HB1053 the Comptroller bears responsibilities to execute performance contracting duties which include preparing master energy savings performance contracts for use by other departments.

We strongly recommend consideration of the provisions of HB1053.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.