

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Friday, February 10, 2012  
9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol - Conference Room 211**

**RE: SENATE BILL NO. 2012 RELATING TO PUBLIC FUNDS**

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and members of the committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii strongly supports S.B. No. 2012 relating to Public Funds.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the “Voice of Business” in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state’s economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The purpose of this Act is to issue \$500,000,000 in general obligation bonds to fund the repair and maintenance or capital renewal and deferred maintenance projects of various departments the University of Hawaii, the Hawaii health systems corporation, and the judiciary and to streamline the procurement process.

We fully support the efforts of the Legislature to assist with the implementation of CIP funded projects in order to help stabilize the economy.

Toward this end, we respectfully suggest that some additional language be added to the bill that will allow agencies hire private entities to assist with managing and processing the funded CIP projects. This will allow the funded projects to be processed by the agency with supplemental assistance from the private sector, similar to “program management.”

We believe that agencies need additional assistance to get these funded CIP projects out to contract as soon as possible. Naturally, safe guards should be in place to ensure that the program management is being done by an independent third party who has no interest in the planning/design or construction phases of the project.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our views.