



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Monday, April 12, 2021
3:00PM
Conference Room 224
and Videoconference

In consideration of
HCR137, HD1

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
AND TOURISM TO COMPILE A SHORT LIST OF FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES
THAT ARE SUITABLE TO RELOCATE TO HAWAII AND IDENTIFY MEANS AND
INCENTIVES TO ENTICE THESE COMPANIES TO RELOCATE.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) offers the following comments on HCR137, HD1, that requests the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism to compile a short list of Fortune 500 companies that are suitable to relocate to Hawai'i and identify means and incentives to entice these companies to relocate.

In order to comply with this resolution, funding in the amount of \$50,000 is necessary.

DBEDT does not have the necessary resources, financially or professionally. A private sector firm specializing in company relocation and incentives, as well as contacts with appropriate Fortune 500 companies, would be required to assist DBEDT in this endeavor.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HCR-137-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/8/2021 11:00:40 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/12/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl B.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

OPPOSE

Why would we be looking at those particular states as examples?

1. Every state listed as examples are I believe "right to work" states.

2 In the case of South Carolina, at least two companies of which I am aware moved back to their northern state origins over the past years for economic reasons. LaZBoy being one.

3. None of the states listed have communities that look like ours. IF the intent is just to bring in more folks to fill jobs like "movers and shakers" please think again.

4. We already have Fortune 500 companies, like Walmart. Please share with us what they do for our island sustainability. Many of the other companies are here as well and some like Home Depot have a poor track record for minorities and LGBTQ communities.

Encouraging something just because it's "trendy" is not what our islands need. We need solid thought about which companies would actually contribute positively, understand our place and the way things work here. Though we are a state, much of our bureaucracy is built on a mixture of traditions and culture.

Why don't we encourage more indigenous companies, more companies that help us sustain and grow our islands responsibly? These are the kinds of resolutions that are based on greed not on what is good for our islands.

HCR-137-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/10/2021 9:53:00 AM

Testimony for EET on 4/12/2021 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Regina Gregory	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This is the opposite of what we should be doing. Instead of inviting more foreign corporations to exploit Hawai'i, we should be encouraging local businesses.