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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
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before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 17, 2021
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

In consideration of
HCR 181/HR 150
**REQUESTING THE HAWAII SISTER-STATE COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE AND
DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INITIATION OF A SISTER-STATE
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CITY OF AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.**

Chair Gates, Vice Chair LoPresti, and members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) offers the following comments to HCR181 / HR150 that requests the Hawaii Sister-State Committee to evaluate and develop recommendations for the initiation of a sister-state relationship with the City of Auckland, New Zealand.

Hawaii and New Zealand share many cultural and economic ties and we should explore how to deepen this multi-faceted relationship. Once an application is received by the Sister-State Committee, it looks forward to working with the Hawaii-based and New Zealand-based organizations involved in this initiative. This will allow the Committee to report back to the legislature with an evaluation and recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.