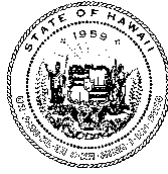


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CURT T. OTAGURO  
COMPTROLLER  
AUDREY HIDANO  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES**  
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WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE COMMITTEES ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND JUDICIARY

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021, 3:00 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 016 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 246

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT

Chairs Moriwaki and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Dela Cruz and Keohokalole, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 246.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) appreciates the intent of S.B. 246 which establishes a State government alignment commission to periodically review state executive branch's departments, divisions, and agencies, including functions and service, and submit it's findings and recommendations to the legislature. The DAGS offers the following comments:

1. Government needs to get more efficient.
2. Government should re-evaluate functions and duplication of efforts and assess the feasibility to consolidate and eliminate outdated processes.
3. Government should look at how technology can improve workflow and business processes that will mitigate risk and simplify getting things done to better serve the public.

4. Government needs to work with unions and update job descriptions of employees and help improve their knowledge and skills to match today's expectation. Employees should be compensated based on performance and being held accountable to achieve the results the legislature and administration are expecting.

In addition, the DAGS has the following concerns:

- This bill does not provide for funding to achieve the intended results expected.
- The DAGS believes that the collective bargaining process is excellent to protect employee rights and provides a foundation of security for continued employment. Unfortunately, those same principles may produce counter results when trying to effect change, increasing duties to achieve more efficiency, and challenging employees to accept new and uncharted tasks that introduce risk.
- Consolidation of government to gain efficiency and results is a statewide initiative that will require all branches of government with a unified commitment to accept and practice the same principles of employment and accountability. Without unified support, silo and individual interests will prevail and produce inconsistent results from what the intended intent of this bill is trying to accomplish.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.