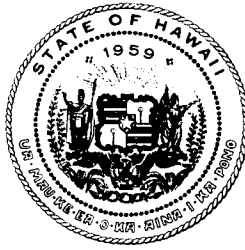


STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR
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DEPT. COMM. NO. 13

February 6, 2002

The Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
State Capitol, Room 003
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, *Management Audit of the Hawaii Tourism Authority*.

We found that the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Tourism Authority has failed to provide it with adequate vision, leadership, or direction. Furthermore, inadequate management of the authority has not ensured the appropriate use of \$144.5 million in state resources. In addition, despite efforts to manage the Hawai'i Convention Center, unresolved issues still exist.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. The report will be available at our website, www.state.hi.us/auditor, and released to the public and press on Thursday, February 7, 2002.

Sincerely,

Marion M. Higa
State Auditor

Enclosure

c.v. Paul Kawaguchi, Senate Clerk