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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO PROPERLY SUPPORT THE SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY REVIEW BOARD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM IN ASSISTING HAWAII'S SMALL BUSINESSES.

1           WHEREAS, the Small Business Regulatory Review Board (Board)  
2 acts as the watchdog for small businesses within state  
3 government; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Board's role is to review state administrative  
6 rules or county ordinances that may adversely affect small  
7 businesses and recommend to the Legislature or the county  
8 council or mayor, as the case may be, that the state or county  
9 agencies should review and modify overly burdensome rules or  
10 ordinances and evaluate the responsiveness of state or county  
11 agencies to small business; and  
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13           WHEREAS, the Board is dedicated to the success of the  
14 State's small businesses, as well as improving relationships  
15 with state and county departments, and has been an instrumental  
16 voice within the small business community; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the Board has done an effective and efficient job  
19 for the State in generating revenue, advertising, and cutting  
20 regulatory red tape for small businesses; and  
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22           WHEREAS, small business owners who serve on the Board  
23 volunteer their time and depend upon the staff of the Board and  
24 the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
25 for support and assistance in fulfilling the responsibilities of  
26 the Board; and  
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28           WHEREAS, the State must demonstrate its recognition of the  
29 important role that the Board plays in assisting Hawaii's small  
30 businesses by providing the Board with adequate resources,  
31 including office space, staff, and budget; and  
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1           WHEREAS, the position of Small Business Advocate provides a  
2 crucial liaison between the Board and its many members; and  
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4           WHEREAS, the Board is currently housed within the  
5 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and  
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7           WHEREAS, budget cuts and the shortage of staff in the  
8 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism have  
9 resulted in the elimination of the full-time Small Business  
10 Advocate position; and  
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12           WHEREAS, the duties of the Small Business Advocate have  
13 been assumed by an already lean staff in an attempt to continue  
14 the work of the Board in assisting Hawaii's small business  
15 community; and  
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17           WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,  
18 and Tourism's reductions of the Board's staffing and resources  
19 and the potential reduction in funding of the relatively small  
20 cost of transportation of members to Board meetings and the  
21 printing and distribution of mandated reports severely undermine  
22 the Board's mission to assist Hawaii small business owners; and  
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24           WHEREAS, shifting resources away from the Board and  
25 elimination of the Small Business Advocate position have  
26 crippled the only viable mechanism to assist Hawaii's small  
27 business community in reducing the potential adverse impact of  
28 proposed new or amended administrative rules; now, therefore,  
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30           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
31 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
32 of 2012, that this body strongly urges the Governor to recognize  
33 the important role that the Small Business Regulatory Board  
34 fulfills as an agency within the Department of Business,  
35 Economic Development, and Tourism and to demonstrate the State's  
36 support for the mission of the Board, by providing adequate  
37 resources including office, space, staff, and budget funding  
38 that will permit the Board to continue assisting small  
39 businesses in the State; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of  
 3 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and the Chairperson  
 4 of the Small Business Regulatory Review Board.  
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OFFERED BY:

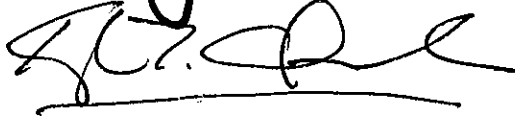

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 Cindy Evans  



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 Jan W. King  


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