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**David Y. Ige**  
*Governor*

**George D. Szigeti**  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

Statement of  
**George D. Szigeti**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hawai'i Tourism Authority  
on  
**GM 749**  
**Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority**  
Senate Committee on Economic Development, Tourism, and Technology  
Monday, April 30, 2018  
9:00am  
Conference Room 414

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers the following **testimony in support of GM 749**, which submits for consideration and confirmation to HTA's Board of Directors (the Board), Gubernatorial Nominee **Fred Atkins** for a term to expire on June 30, 2022.

Mr. Atkins' current service as a member of the Board has given him important knowledge and understanding of HTA's mission to serve the people of Hawai'i by promoting Hawai'i as a premier visitor destination. Mr. Atkins' roots in Kaua'i have helped HTA work to efficiently address community needs in the wake of the historic flooding earlier this month. His experience serving Hawai'i's tourism industry make Mr. Atkins a valuable member of the Board and its Standing Marketing Committee. Mr. Atkins also has experience serving our State's communities, having been a long-standing member of the YMCA's Board of Directors. Mr. Atkins' knowledge of the industry and understanding of the various community stakeholders in Hawai'i's tourism industry has been, and will continue to be, of tremendous value to HTA's mission.

At HTA, we look forward to continuing our collaboration with Mr. Atkins to enhance and highlight Hawai'i's people, place and culture with the goal of delivering an incomparable visitor experience.

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer this testimony.