



**Testimony to the House Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business
Tuesday, January 24, 2012
8:30 a.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 312**

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1671 RELATING TO PROCUREMENT

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Choy, and members of the committee:

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") supports HB 1671 relating to Procurement.

The Chamber is the largest business organization in Hawaii, representing more than 1,000 businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of its members, which employ more than 200,000 individuals, to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber strongly supports H.B. No. 1671 which proposes to impose time limits on rendering administrative and judicial review decisions; limits protests to those that are a minimum percentage of the contract value; requires posting of a protest bond, to be forfeited if the protesting party does not prevail.

The purpose of the bill is to allow government funded capital improvement projects to proceed to construction as expeditiously as possible. It does not remove the ability to protest bids, but it does attempt to address situation where protest may lack merit.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our views.