



**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. 1894 RELATING TO PROCUREMENT**

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

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii ("The Chamber") supports HB 1894 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. 1894 which proposes to temporarily authorize the governor or a county mayor to exempt a construction or design-build procurement from protest concerning the procurement and administrative review of a non-responsible offeror determination. It requires, as a condition of the exemption, that all bids and proposals, including amendments or revisions, evaluations, and ratings be released for public inspection. The bill also requires the posting of the information on the state or county website.

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. The bill intends on promoting economic revitalization by temporarily authorizing the governor or a county mayor to exempt construction or design-build procurements from protests concerning the procurement and the administrative review of a non-responsible offeror determination.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our views.