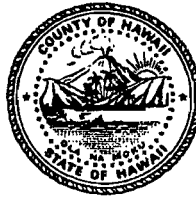


Harry Kim
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu
Managing Director

Barbara J.
Kossow
Deputy Managing
Director

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February 3, 2006

The Honorable David Y. Ige
Chair, Committee on
Intergovernmental Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senator Ige and Committee Members:

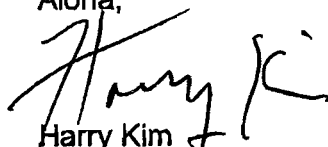
RE: SB 2403, Relating to Exceptions to Tort Actions

Thank you for hearing SB 2403. Since I am not an attorney, I would like to express my general support for this measure, but my advisors tell me that we need to request the following amendment to clarify the purpose of this bill:

"§663- Exceptions. [This chapter shall not apply to:] Counties and their departments, boards, commissions, officers and employees shall not be liable for the following: "

The purpose of SB2403 is to give counties, county employees, and county officers the same protection that is afforded to the State, and its officials, in H.R.S. §662-15. It seems to me that this should have been the rule from day one, but the counties have had to operate under different rules than those applied to the State. It would seem to be good public policy, and only fair, that the State and County operate under the same rules and protections.

Aloha,


Harry Kim
MAYOR