LEGISLATURE MOVES BILLS TO RAISE GET TAX TO 6%

The 2016 legislative session is off to a strong start; the Chamber has been actively testifying on over 100 bills to support a positive business climate in Hawaii and opposing many harmful bills that would increase costs or impose harsher regulations.

Several bills are being tracked that would raise the GET and income tax, and mandate paid sick leave. Projected tax increases being considered this year would raise taxes by over $1.2 billion, including the following bills:
- SB 2454 - increases income taxes
- SB 2596 & SB 2586 - raise GET by 1% to provide funds for DOE

The Chamber has been actively testifying on over 20 bills that impact business climate in Hawaii:
- HB 1716 and HB 2266, which support early learning programs
- HB 1847 and SB 2216, which support sports tourism and entertainment
- HB 2027, which supports an infrastructure revolving fund
- HB 2049 and SB 2372, which seek a solution to neglected private roads in use by the public
- HB 2199, which supports Transit Oriented Development
- HB 2209, which seeks to rectify the ruling in the case of Adams v. CDW
- HB 2262, HB 2264, HB 2288, HB 2550, HB 2668, SB 2791, SB 2792, SB 3011, which support the state’s manufacturing, high technology and innovation industries by supporting successful programs with renewed funding

To get involved and help build a better business climate in Hawaii, contact Jenny Lee, Business Advocacy Coordinator, at jlee@cochawaii.org.