News Release

For Immediate Release: August 14, 2006

TAX REVIEW COMMISSION TO DISCUSS STREAMLINED SALES AND USE TAX RECOMMENDATION AT AUGUST MEETING

HONOLULU—The 2005-2007 Tax Review Commission will consider whether to recommend that Hawaii conform its general excise and use tax laws to the provisions of the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement at its August meeting.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday, August 29, 2006, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., at the State Capitol in the Senate Ways and Means Hearing Room (Room 211). Persons who need special accommodations (i.e., Sign Language interpreter, large print, etc.) should call the Tax Research and Planning Office of the State Department of Taxation at 808-587-1440, at least three (3) business days before the meeting.

If necessary, the Chairperson may set a time limit for each member of the public who wishes to speak. Persons who are unable to attend may submit written statements to the 2005-2007 Tax Review Commission, c/o Tax Research and Planning Office; State Department of Taxation; P.O. Box 259; Honolulu, Hawaii, 96809-0259.

Participation in the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement could help the State to collect use taxes owed by Hawaii consumers on certain goods and services acquired from out-of-State businesses. Legislation allowing the State to participate in the National
Streamlined Sales Tax Project was passed in 2003 (Act 173, Session Laws of Hawaii 2003), but the State will not become part of the actual agreement until conforming legislation is enacted. Conforming legislation was proposed during the 2006 legislative session but failed to pass.

The members of the 2005-2007 Tax Review Commission were appointed by Governor Linda Lingle with the advice and consent of the Senate pursuant to Article VII, Section 3, Hawaii State Constitution, and chapter 255D, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Commission is conducting a systematic review of the State's tax structure, and a report with their recommendations on revenue and tax policy will be submitted to the Legislature prior to the 2007 legislative session.

For more information, contact:
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