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COMMISSIONER'S FINDINGS AND ORDER REGARDING REDUCTION IN FEES FOR: ESCROW DEPOSITORIES

In accordance with Haw. Rev. Stat. §98-28, 449-8, and 449-14 the Commissioner of Financial Institutions hereby makes the following findings:

- 1) As of June 30, 2019, the Compliance Resolution Fund for the Division of Financial Institutions ("DFI") has a projected ending balance of \$10,794,204, which is approximately 22 months in reserves. DFI has determined that it needs a reserve amount of 18 months in order to weather license fluctuations due to the economic cycle and to maintain services to consumers, licensees, and applicants.
- 2) Act 29, Session Laws Hawaii 2019, amended certain special fund ceilings and provided for suspension of fees if the ceiling is exceeded.
- 3) Hawaii Revised Statutes Section 92-28 allows for the governor to increase or decrease fees or nontax revenues assessed or charged by any governmental agency.
- 4) DFI determined that if it ceased collecting all fees, it would deplete the reserve amount to approximately 13.9 months and DFI would not be able to provide services at the same level it does today in FY2021.
- 5) DFI receives approximately half its revenues by December 31 of each calendar year.
- 6) Accordingly, DFI determined that it will stay 50% of the renewal fees from companies licensed under HRS Chapter 449 for FY2020. DFI projects that at the end of FY2020 its reserve amount will be 18.1 months, and at the end of FY2021, its reserve amount will be 17.1 months.

Accordingly, the Commissioner ORDERS as follows:

1) The collection of 50% of the fees for entities licensed pursuant to Chapter 449, HRS, shall cease for the 2020 renewals pursuant to Section 449-14, HRS.

2)	The collection of the fees in accordance with HRS Sections 449-8 and 449-14 from all
	new applicants and licensees shall continue.

DATED Sep 6, 2019

SO ORDERED

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IRIS IKEDA

COMMISSIONER OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS