



Hawai'i Convention Center
1801 Kalākaua Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96815
kelepona tel 808 973 2255
kelepa'i fax 808 973 2253
kahua pa'a web hawaii-tourism-authority.org

David Y. Ige
Governor

George D. Szigeti
President and Chief Executive Officer

For Immediate Release: February 28, 2018

Statement by George D. Szigeti, President and CEO, Hawai'i Tourism Authority

RE: Hawai'i's Visitor Statistics Results for January 2018

HONOLULU – George D. Szigeti, president and CEO of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), issued the following statement regarding Hawai'i's visitor statistics results for January 2018.

"We are fortunate that Hawai'i's tourism industry began 2018 with outstanding results in January, highlighted by a record monthly total of \$1.69 billion in visitor spending statewide. It's notable that Maui, Kaua'i and the island of Hawai'i all achieved new record monthly totals as well in visitor spending.

"A significant factor for Hawai'i's success in January is that air seat capacity increased by 9.7 percent, which reflects the new flights that have been added recently, especially to the neighbor islands. Heightened travel demand leads to increased air access, and carriers are showing their confidence in Hawai'i's ability to attract travel consumers from the U.S. mainland and around the world.

"A benefit of tourism's success in January is that \$197 million in state tax revenue was generated, which is also a record monthly total. This is tax revenue that is strengthening our State at the government level, while the increased visitor spending is helping to support businesses and jobs for residents in communities throughout the state.

"HTA's marketing team is working hard in our 10 target markets worldwide to drive travel demand for the Hawaiian Islands and help stave off the intense competition coming from other global destinations. We appreciate the continued support of our travel industry partners, as keeping Hawai'i tourism strong for the future is a collective team effort."

###

Media Contacts:

Charlene Chan
Director of Communications
Hawai'i Tourism Authority
808-973-2272 (o)
808-781-7733 (m)
Charlene@gohta.net

Patrick Dugan
Senior Vice President
Anthology Marketing Group
808-539-3411 (o)
808-741-2712 (m)
Patrick.Dugan@AnthologyGroup.com