



Iron Workers Stabilization Fund

T. George Paris
Managing Director

February 10, 2025
3:15 pm

Senate Committee on Labor & Technology
Conference room 309 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Re: Support for SB136-Relating to Ironworkers

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee and Members of Senate Committee on Labor & Technology:

The Ironworkers Stabilization Fund **strongly supports** SB136, which relates to Ironworkers and prohibits any person from disassembling, dismantling, or demolishing iron projects without meeting specific qualifications. We propose minor housekeeping amendments to clarify the bill's intent:

- * Line 7: Insert "for ironworkers" between "program" and "approved."
- * Line 7: Insert "by" after "approved."
- * Line 14: Insert "enrolled or" after "has."

Ironworkers are highly skilled and specialized craftspeople who have undergone rigorous training and adhere to strict safety standards in all aspects of their work, including installation, maintenance, and ultimately, decommissioning of iron structures.

Improper dismantling or demolition of these projects poses significant safety risks which compromise the structural integrity of the project and surrounding areas, endangering workers and the public. Lack of adherence to safety protocols increases the risk of accidents, injuries, and fatalities. Improper dismantling can release hazardous materials and debris, harming the environment. Allowing untrained individuals to perform these critical tasks undermines the value of the ironworkers' expertise and devalues the importance of safety in our industry.

I urge this committee to pass HB956 to safeguard the safety of workers and the public, protect property, and uphold the highest standards of professionalism in the iron working industry.

Sincerely,

T. George Paris
Managing Director

National Center for Health Statistics. U.S. Small-Area Life Expectancy Estimates Project (USALEEP): Life Expectancy Estimates File for {Jurisdiction}, 2010-2015]. National Center for Health Statistics. 2018. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/usaleep/usaleep.html>.

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UNITED PUBLIC WORKERS

AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO

THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

MONDAY, February 10, 2025, 3:15 PM
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Re: Testimony on SB136 – RELATING TO IRONWORKERS

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”) is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties.

UPW provides **comments** on SB136, which prohibits any person from disassembling, dismantling, or demolishing iron projects unless the person has completed an apprenticeship program for ironworkers approved and registered with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. This measure also establishes penalties and requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (“DLIR”) to adopt rules.

As referenced in the bill, the definition of an “iron project”, according to Article IV of the 2021 Constitution of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers, is quite comprehensive. Based on this definition, we are concerned that our Bargaining Unit-1 members will be in violation of the proposed law by performing their regularly assigned duties, if they have not met the requirements established in this bill. We humbly request that this measure be amended to exempt State and county employees.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify on this measure.

HEADQUARTERS

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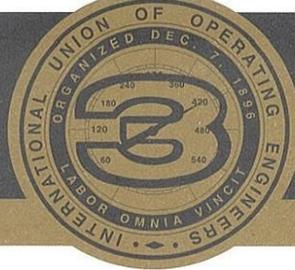
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February 7, 2025

Honorable, Henry J.C. Aquino, Senate Committee on Labor and Technology, Chair
Honorable, Chris Lee, Senate Committee on Labor and Technology, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

RE: SB136- Prohibits any person from disassembling, dismantling, or demolishing iron projects unless the person has completed an apprenticeship program for ironworkers approved and registered with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations. Establishes penalties. Requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to adopt rules.

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology,

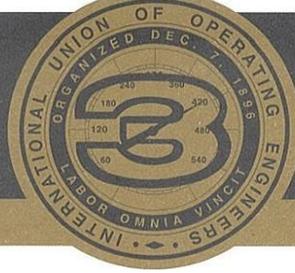
My name is Ana Tuiasosopo. I am the District Representative and Trustee for Operating Engineers Local 3. We are the largest Construction Trades Local in the United States. I and the members of Operating Engineers Local 3 **strongly oppose SB136**.

First, the Hawaii Revised Statutes 372, regarding “Apprenticeships” provides the framework, duties, and laws for the State of Hawaii’s Apprenticeships, under the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. This bill adds a definition on an “Iron Worker’s” scope of work. It specifically states “placing steel” is an iron workers job. That is not the case if it is done with a machine (i.e. Forklift, crane, or motorized equipment). Any machine run on a construction site falls under the scope of Operating Engineers Local 3.

Second, the definition of “Iron Project” references article IV of the 2021 Constitution of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers. This section states the Iron Worker’s Craft Jurisdiction, regarding the erection and dismantling of Cranes. The erection and dismantling of cranes is also work claimed by Operating Engineers Local 3.

Lastly, no other construction trade has ever tried to codify their scope of work/jurisdiction into HRS 372. This will give an unfair advantage to one trade over the other. If this bill passes, then all trades will lobby bills to codify their scope of work/jurisdiction. Normally, jurisdictional disputes that come up on public works projects are already handled by Collective Bargain Agreements with the contractor, or via PLAs.

We humbly ask you to amend SB136 to protect the jobs of the members of Operating Engineers Local 3 or defer SB136.



Sincerely,

Ana Tuiasosopo
Hawaii District Representative, Trustee
Hawaii Operating Engineers Local 3



HAWAII REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

February 10, 2025

TO: The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
The Honorable Chris Lee, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Technology

FROM: Mitchell Tynanes
Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters

RE: **Strong Opposition for SB136 – Relating to Ironworkers**

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters (HRCC), I submit this testimony in **strong opposition of SB136**, which seeks to prohibit any person from disassembling, dismantling, or demolishing iron projects unless the person has completed an apprenticeship program for ironworkers approved and registered with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations; establishes penalties; and requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to adopt rules.

Defining occupations through legislation can invite unnecessary government intervention and could result in increased regulatory burden, requiring ongoing amendments to stay current with industry practices, which could be inefficient and cumbersome. Defining roles between labor organizations at the Legislature is highly inappropriate. A statute might not capture the nuances of what a skilled craftsperson does, leading to confusion and/or limitations on job roles.

For these reasons, we are in **strong opposition to SB136**. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Mitchell Tynanes
Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters

STATE HEADQUARTERS & BUSINESS OFFICES

OAHU: 1311 Houghtailing Street, Honolulu Hawaii 96817-2712 • Ph. (808) 847-5761 Fax (808) 440-9188
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SB-136

Submitted on: 2/7/2025 4:27:08 PM

Testimony for LBT on 2/10/2025 3:15:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Hawaii LECET | Testifying for Hawaii Laborers & Employers Cooperation and Education Trust | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Hawaii LECET opposes SB136.



LIUNA!

THE SENATE

KA 'AHA KENEKOA

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

PETER A. GANABAN
*Business Manager/
Secretary-Treasurer*

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RUSSELL NAPIHAA
Auditor

MARK TRAVALINO
Auditor

YUGAN HOTTENDORF
Sergeant-At-Arms

Monday, February 10, 2025, 3:15pm
Conference Room 224

Re: Testimony in Opposition to SB136
Relating to Ironworkers

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

The Laborer's International Union Local 368 represents 5000+ members working in construction, environmental remediation, maintenance, food service, health care, clerical, and other occupations, as well as in state, local, and municipal government jobs and as mail handlers in the U.S. Postal Service across the State.

The Laborer's International Union Local 368 **opposes SB136**, which prohibits any person from disassembling, dismantling, or demolishing iron projects unless the person has completed an apprenticeship program for ironworkers approved and registered with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Firstly, no trade union currently has their work and scope codified in Hawaii Revised Statutes. To do so will necessitate the entirety of the trades to be defined in Statute, rendering the current jurisdictional framework moot.

Secondly, this measure contains language that would put into question work historically done by Laborers and could invalidate ratified collective bargaining agreements between many parties.

It is for the aforementioned reasons that we respectfully request you defer this measure. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Peter A. Ganaban

Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer
Laborers International Union of North America - Local 368
1617 Palama Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

LIUNA Local 368
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Feel the Power



PLUMBERS AND FITTERS LOCAL 675
UNITED ASSOCIATION



The Senate
KA 'AHA KENEOA

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
TECHNOLOGY

Senator Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Monday, February 10, 2025, 3:15pm
Conference Room 224

Re: **Testimony in Opposition to SB136**
Relating to Ironworkers

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

The Plumbers & Fitters Local 675 was founded in 1919 and received its charter from the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States. Our members provide quality and reliable work on projects including, but not limited to, power plants, water treatment plants, oil refineries, hospitals, government and commercial buildings, hotels and luxury resorts, high-rise condominiums, and single-family homes in residential neighborhoods across the State.

The Plumbers & Fitters Local 675 **opposes SB136**, which prohibits any person from disassembling, dismantling, or demolishing iron projects unless the person has completed an apprenticeship program for ironworkers approved and registered with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

Firstly, no trade union currently has their work and scope codified in Hawaii Revised Statutes. To do so will necessitate the entirety of the trades to be defined in Statute, rendering the current jurisdictional framework moot.

Secondly, this measure contains language that would necessitate the hiring of additional crafts to complete ancillary work on plumbing and fitting projects. Work historically performed by plumbers and fitters. It also has the potential to invalidate ratified collective bargaining agreements.

It is for the aforementioned reasons that we respectfully request you defer this measure. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Valentino Ceria

Business Manager / Financial Secretary - Treasurer
Plumbers and Fitters Local 675

