SB 143

EDT/WTL



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

LATE

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The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Committee on Water, Land Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association February 11, 2009

> S.B. 1143 – RELATING TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

The Hawaii Government Employees Association supports the purpose and intent of S.B. 1143, which establishes standards for the State Historic Preservation Officer within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. This position performs an important role in preserving historical sites throughout the State. Recent problems with the division were due in large part to the State Historical Preservation Officer lacking the appropriate job qualifications.

S.B. 1143 requires that the person appointed by the Governor meet the qualifications set by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and have professional experience with historic preservation in Hawaii. The Governor must also inform the Legislature about the person's qualifications to serve in that position.

The State Historic Preservation Officer should be a qualified historic preservation official in architecture, architectural history, archaeology, history, culture or a closely related field. The State Historic Preservation Officer should also have professional experience with historical preservation locally.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 1143.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deputy Executive Director.