



LATE

House of Representatives
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature
Regular Session of 2010

Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair

Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 5, 2010

TIME: 9:30 am

PLACE: Conference Room 309

**TESTIMONY OF THE UNITED PUBLIC WORKERS, LOCAL 646, ON HB 1871,
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT, AND HB 2460, RELATING TO STATE DEPARTMENTS**

Both these measures convert the department of human resources development (DHRD) from a principal state department to a division in the department of labor and industrial relations (DLIR). They also transfer the commission on salaries and the board of trustees of the deferred compensation plan to the department of accounting and general services.

The United Public Workers opposes both bills.

DHRD's responsibilities and mission are very different from DLIR's. DHRD services and provides support to all state agencies. Its responsibilities include administering personnel laws, rules and policies regarding recruitment, employee rights and benefits, and, it represents the State in labor relations issues.

On the other hand, DLIR's purpose is to administer programs to the public that increases the economic security, physical well-being, and productivity of workers, and to achieve good labor-management relations, including the administration of workers' compensation, employment security, apprenticeship training, wage and hour, and industrial relations laws.

Furthermore, there may be an inherent conflict of interest if DHRD is placed within DLIR. DHRD represents the state as an employer while DLIR investigates and enforces actions against employers. It is very possible that divisions within the department would have opposing positions while implementing their statutory duties.

For these reasons we urge these measures be shelved.

HEADQUARTERS - 1426 North School Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96817-1914 ♦ Phone: (808) 847-2631

HAWAII - 362 East Lanikaula Street ♦ Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4336 ♦ Phone: (808) 961-3424

KAUAI - 4211 Rice Street ♦ Lihue, Hawaii 96766-1325 ♦ Phone: (808) 245-2412

MAUI - 841 Kolu Street ♦ Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1436 ♦ Phone: (808) 244-0815

1-866-454-4166 (Toll Free. Molokai/Lanai only)