

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 2538, RELATING TO THE PAYMENT OF EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM BENEFITS

HB 2538 provides for the payment of state retirement benefits on a monthly basis and requires the payment to be directly deposited to a financial institution account.

The UPW has serious concerns with the section on monthly payments. Currently, about two-thirds of the retirees receive semi-monthly payments. Many of these retirees are quite elderly; many survive entirely on their retirement benefits. This change from semi to monthly payments would be traumatic and place an additional hardship on these retirees in planning their budget and coping with their expenses.

For this reason we ask you to hold this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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: (8C8) 244-0815