HB175,HD2 Testimony

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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.mauicounty.gov/council

March 21, 2011

TO:

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

FROM:

Joseph Pontanilla, Treasufer-

xeepl fortenill Hawaii State Association of Counties

SUBJECT:

HEARING OF MARCH 22, 2011; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 175, HD2, RELATING TO THE EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to require one of the members of the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Board of Trustees to be appointed by agreement of the mayors of the four counties and approved by the Hawaii State Association of Counties.

I am aware that the President of the Hawaii State Association of Counties (HSAC) has submitted testimony on behalf of HSAC in support of this measure, which is in the HSAC Legislative Package. As the Treasurer of HSAC, I concur with the testimony submitted by the President, and urge you to support this measure.

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Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i, and City & County of Honolulu

TESTIMONY OF DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI PRESIDENT, HAWAI'I STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

SENATE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY & LABOR (JDL), AND PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, & MILITARY AFFAIRS (PGM) March 22, 2011 AT 9:00 A.M. CONFERENCE ROOM 016, STATE CAPITOL

House Bill No. 175, House Draft 2; Relating to the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF); HSAC Package

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, Senate Committee on JDL and Honorable Will Espero, Chair, Senate Committee on PGM, and Committee Members:

My name is Derek S. K. Kawakami, and I submit this testimony in my capacity as President of the Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC).

HSAC supports the concept of H.B. 175, H.D. 2, which proposes to amend Section 87A-5 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes to provide for county representation on the Hawai'i Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF) Board of Trustees, a measure included in the 2011 Hawai'i State Association of Counties Legislative Package.

Out of the ten trustees, this proposal consists of five trustees to represent public employers, four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, and one to be appointed by the mayors of the Counties and approved by HSAC. The amendment that the Governor may fill the vacancy should the Counties not make an appointment within sixty days, will ensure representation of the Counties, in which members may be better informed of decisions and changes made to the programs that have a direct impact on county interests.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit this testimony.

Mahalo nui loa,

Derek S.K. Kawakami (4) HSAC President

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LP: V:\LP's Files\HSAC_NACo_WIR_LEGISLATION\LEGISLATION\Legislative Packages\2011\2011 HSAC Legislative Package\Testimonies\EUTF

From: <u>mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com</u>

Subject: Testimony for HB175 on 3/22/2011 9:00:00 AM

Date: Friday, March 18, 2011 3:28:48 PM

Testimony for JDL/PGM 3/22/2011 9:00:00 AM HB175

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: gregory swartz
Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: swartzg001@hawaii.rr.com

Submitted on: 3/18/2011

Comments:

Retirees are not adequately represented on the board. Retirees must be given a voice in the selection of their representatives.