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The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
House of Representatives
Committee on Finance
February 25, 2011

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

H.B. No. 815 Relating to Public Employees

My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. HFFA represents the 2,800 active and retired professional fire fighters throughout the State. HFFA strongly opposes H.B. No. 815 which seeks to reduce benefits and employer contributions for active employees within the Hawaii Employer Union Health Benefit Trust Fund from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2015

This is another proposal which narrows the scope of negotiations regarding public employee benefits and further erodes the collective bargaining rights of public employees. We urge the Committee to allow the negotiation process to fully vet out the terms and conditions of employment between the employer and employee representative. This would allow both the employer and employee representatives to come to mutual agreement on terms of the benefit levels and premium contributions.

HFFA strongly opposes H.B. No. 815 and respectfully request that the Committee on Finance hold the bill in Committee.

## **FINTestimony**

From:

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ent:

Friday, February 25, 2011 9:11 AM

To:

FINTestimony

Cc:

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Subject:

Testimony for HB815 on 2/25/2011 10:00:00 AM

Testimony for FIN 2/25/2011 10:00:00 AM HB815

Conference room: 308

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

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Submitted on: 2/25/2011

## Comments:

I oppose this bill to the extent that it limits the State's and counties' contributions to the government employee health fund and will further undermine the stability of the fund. The objective should be to put the fund on

