



**TESTIMONY OF JAN K. YAMANE, ACTING STATE AUDITOR,  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 126, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC  
EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
March 24, 2015**

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

I am Jan Yamane, Acting State Auditor. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill No. 126, making appropriations for public employment cost items. The purpose of this bill is to fund Hawai'i employer-union health benefits trust fund and other cost adjustments authorized by Chapter 89C, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, for legislative officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining, including staff in my office. We encourage passage of this bill unamended. I am available for questions should you have any.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Written Testimony

## **HB126**

### **MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau  
Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Acting Director

Presented to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 211

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Good morning Chair Tokuda and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Acting Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments in support of H.B. No. 126, Making Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for the public employment cost items of and cost adjustments for employees of the legislative service agencies, the Senate, and the House of Representatives.

As you know, the staff of the Legislature and the legislative service agencies are excluded from collective bargaining. The Bureau strongly supports the measure's continued progress through the legislative process so that a viable legislative vehicle will remain available should the Legislature later determine that such cost items and adjustments are warranted.

Thank you again for your consideration.



# HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawaii • Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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## TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

**BILL NO:** H.B. 126, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

**TO:** The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair  
The Honorable Members  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
State Capitol, Room 207  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**FROM:** Hawaii State Ethics Commission

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 24, 2015

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**ROOM:** Conference Room 211

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The Hawaii State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) requests the Committee’s support of H.B. 126, which is to appropriate additional funds to the legislative agencies, including the Commission, to fund Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund costs and other cost adjustments authorized by chapter 89C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for legislative officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining.

The Commission’s approved budget for FY 2015-2016 does not include any amount to fund the costs associated with Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund costs and other cost adjustments that the Legislature may deem appropriate. It is critical that the Legislature appropriate additional funds for the Commission should the employees of the Executive departments be entitled to adjustments in benefits and pay. Without the additional appropriation, the Commission may be unable to provide its employees with similar adjustments.

Thank you for considering the Commission's testimony on H.B. 126.



***League of Women Voters of Hawaii***

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COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Ronald Kouchi, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 24, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

Conference Room 211

HB 126 Making Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items

Legislative Officers and Employees; Appropriation

Makes appropriation for the public employment cost items of and cost adjustments for employees of the various legislative agencies.

TESTIMONY

League of Women Voters of Hawaii, Legislative Committee

Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Kouchi, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports the adequate appropriate for public employment costs; therefore, the League **supports HB 126** which would fund for fiscal year 2015-2016 the Hawaii Employer-Union Trust Fund Benefits costs and other cost adjustments for legislative officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining. This would cover employees of the State Ethics Commission, Office of the Auditor, Legislative Reference Bureau, and other essential public services.

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii urges you to pass HB 126. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.