



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION  
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

**LATE TESTIMONY**

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The Twenty-Eighth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State Senate  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association  
March 16, 2016

H.B. 2605, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO LABOR

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 2605, H.D. 1, which is to address the pending unemployment and dislocation of employees due to the closure of Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company and to offset the expiration of federal funding to establish, administer and support on-the-job training on Maui.

The transition of thousands of acres of farmland on Maui to diversified agriculture will affect the local economy in significant ways. As these employees lose their jobs, there will be economic hardship for them and the larger Maui community. Therefore, retraining Maui's workforce is critical to mitigating the effects of large scale job losses on the local economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 2605, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira  
Executive Director

Testimony of  
Pacific Resource Partnership

Hawaii State Senate  
Committee on Judiciary & Labor  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

HB 2605, HD1 – Labor  
Wednesday, March 16, 2016  
9:00 A.M.  
State Capitol – Room 016

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee:

We strongly support HB 2605, HD1 which appropriates funds to establish, administer, and support on-the-job training for individuals who are unemployed and dislocated due to the closure of Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company on Maui.

The first round of layoffs began earlier this month and the remaining employees will be let go by the end of the year adding to a loss of over 600 jobs on Maui. According to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), federal funds currently available are projected to be insufficient to serve the large numbers scheduled for the layoff.

We strongly support HB 2605, HD1 and respectfully ask for your support. Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you.

## About PRP

*Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) is a not-for-profit organization that represents the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters, the largest construction union in the state, and more than 240 of Hawaii's top contractors. Through this unique partnership, PRP has become an influential voice for responsible construction and an advocate for creating a stronger, more sustainable Hawaii in a way that promotes a vibrant economy, creates jobs and enhances the quality of life for all residents.*



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDL Testimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2605 on Mar 16, 2016 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 16, 2016 12:42:13 PM

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**HB2605**

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for JDL on Mar 16, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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