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Testimony by Hawaii State AFL-CIO February 9, 2016

S.B. 3038 – RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO supports S.B. 3038 which creates a temporary program providing additional benefits to unemployed workers by extending their unemployment insurance benefits.

When Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar (HC&S) ends their sugar operations on Maui later this year, hundreds of employees will be permanently laid off and will face a very difficult and challenging time as they begin to seek new employment in completely different industries. Creating a temporary program that provides additional unemployment benefits will financially help these workers continue to pay their mortgages, rent, and many other bills while they search for new jobs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira President



The Hawaii State Senate The Twenty-Eighth Legislature Regular Session of 2016

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Tuesday, February 9, 2016 TIME OF HEARING: 9:15 a.m. PLACE OF HEARING: Conference Room 016

TESTIMONY ON SB3038 RELATINGNTO UNEMPLOYMENT

By Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, state director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, and AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive representative for approximately 11,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties.

SB3038 Relating to Unemployment creates a temporary program providing additional benefits to unemployed workers by extending their unemployment insurance benefits. The UPW supports this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.