HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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The Thirtieth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
Committee on Ways & Means

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 6, 2020

H.B. 2302, H.B. 2303, H.B. 2304, H.B. 2306, H.B. 2307, H.B. 2308, and H.B. 2309 – MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 2302, H.B. 2303, H.B. 2304, H.B. 2306, H.B. 2307, H.B. 2308, and H.B. 2309, each of which provides an emergency funding vehicle to implement collective bargaining agreements for Bargaining Units 02, 03, 04, 08, 09, 13, and 14, respectively.

Bargaining Units 02 (blue collar supervisors), 03 (white collar employees), 04 (white collar supervisors), 08 (administrative, professional & technical employees in the University of Hawaii system), and 13 (professional & scientific employees) each reached settlement agreements with the Employer and unit members ratified their contracts by vote. Bargaining Unit 09 (nurses) proceeded to arbitration and a final & binding decision was rendered on September 16, 2019. Bargaining Unit 14 (law enforcement officers and ocean and water safety officers) recently concluded arbitration proceedings and we are awaiting a final & binding decision from the arbitration panel.

We defer to the Department of Budget & Finance to provide the specific dollar amounts per unit and per fiscal year, as we only have employee information for the members we represent. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of the bills.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

DAVID Y. IGE

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAI'I EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER



STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

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TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS AND
WAYS AND MEANS
ON
HOUSE BILL NOS. 2305, H.D. 1, AND 2309, H.D. 1

March 10, 2020 11:00 a.m. Room 211

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Department of Budget and Finance supports moving these Administration measures, or similar ones, as negotiations are currently in progress and vehicle bills will be necessary should an agreement be reached or arbitration award issued prior to the end of the legislative session.

These measures are vehicle bills to appropriate and authorize funds for collective bargaining cost items for salary adjustments and other cost adjustments for public employees and their excluded counterparts for Fiscal Biennium 2019-21.

The bargaining units addressed in the bills are as follows: House Bill No. 2305, H.D. 1, Bargaining Unit 7 (negotiations in progress); and House Bill No. 2309, H.D. 1, Bargaining Unit 14 (arbitration hearing complete, awaiting award).

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.