

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET 10TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-8500 • FAX: (808) 768-5563 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov/hr

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



CAROLEE C. KUBO
DIRECTOR

NOEL T. ONO
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
The Senate, Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2251
Relating to Collective Bargaining

The City and County of Honolulu ("City") supports SB 2251, which would create a separate bargaining unit (Bargaining Unit 15) for Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in the State of Hawaii. The Water Safety Officers of the City provide year round lifeguard services for the island of Oahu. A separate bargaining unit (BU) would be appropriate because of their unique job duties that are unlike any of the other 14 bargaining units.

In addition, the City respectfully submits the following comments on SB 2251. The bill in its current form, in Section 89-6 (a), defines BU 15 as "State and county ocean safety and water safety officers". Other public safety units, such as BU 11 and BU 12, are defined in that same section as "Firefighters" and "Police officers", respectively. To be consistent, we suggest that BU 15 simply be defined as "Ocean safety and water safety officers". Secondly, the bill in its current form, in Section 89-11 (d) (1), outlines the voting structure for BU 15 for the purposes of negotiating a collective bargaining agreement, which gives votes to the Chief Justice and the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Board if they have employees in the BU. As all of the current Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers are employed by the City and neighbor island counties, we feel it would be appropriate to add BU 15 to Section 89-11 (d) (2). This would make the voting structure for BU 15 consistent with BU 11 and BU 12, which are also public safety units mostly or wholly comprised of employees of the City and neighbor island counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carolee C. Kubo".

Carolee C. Kubo
Director



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

**The Thirtieth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Ways & Means**

**Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 20, 2020**

S.B. 2251 – RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of S.B. 2251 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of state and county ocean safety and water safety officers (OSOs).

Bargaining unit 14 is currently composed of deputy sheriffs, conservation and resource enforcement officers, harbor enforcement officers, and state and county ocean and water safety officers who previously belonged to bargaining unit 3, white collar employees. At the time of creation, the Legislature recognized and understood that the unique needs of the LEOs and OSOs could not be addressed if they remained in the largest, and one of the most diverse units.

During the 2013 legislative session, we asserted that through a separate bargaining unit the specialized needs of LEOs and OSOs, including mandatory trainings and certifications, uniform and equipment allowances, and terms and conditions of employment, would be more directly and uniformly addressed with the Employer. Although this remains true, after the completion of two rounds of contract negotiations, it is apparent that the two groups of employees are too incongruous to be in the same unit. LEOs are armed personnel who are trained to execute law enforcement services statewide, handle detained persons, serve arrest warrants, and ensure the compliance of state law in a variety of areas, including airports, courts, harbors, and state lands. OSOs are not armed and do not provide law enforcement services, but rather are trained for ocean rescues, emergency medical first response, and injury prevention programs. Combining the specialized needs of law enforcement and ocean safety in one unit has proven to be impractical as they are two distinct occupational classes, similar to the differences between police officers, firefighters, and nurses.

We wholeheartedly believe that creating a new bargaining unit is necessary for us to best address the different needs of our government employees. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of S.B. 2251.

Respectfully submitted,

**Randy Perreira
Executive Director**



HAWAIIAN LIFEGUARD ASSOCIATION

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Gibert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair,
and Members
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Thirtieth Legislature
Regular Session of 2020

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members:

Re: SB 2251 RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Hawaiian Lifeguard Association (HLA) is the non-profit statewide organization that supports the interests of the 400 professional Ocean and Water Safety Officers employed in the State of Hawaii. The goals of the HLA are to maintain the highest standards of training and performance for the lifeguards who ensure the safety of the millions of visitors and residents who visit Hawaii's beaches. The HLA also supports and promotes drowning and injury prevention programs statewide to reduce the number of incidents that occur in the ocean environment every year.

Hawaii's lifeguards are recognized internationally as among the best in the world, having to deal with the biggest and most dangerous surf conditions, pioneering the use of personal watercraft for surf rescue, and for implementing innovative and effective prevention program.

In November of 2013, the Hawaii Labor Relations Board approved the creation of HGEA Bargaining Unit 14. This significant decision was the result of recognizing the public safety functions of the State's lifeguards, sheriffs, harbor patrol, and DLNR enforcement officers.

Unit 14 was the first new bargaining unit formed in the HGEA in over 30 years, and was a welcome improvement in labor representation for the included public safety employees.

However, during biennial contract negotiations, it has become increasingly apparent that there are significant differences in the job functions of the four classes of employees in the unit.

Post Office Box 283324, Honolulu, HI 96828 Telephone: (808) 479-1610
<www.hawaiianlifeguardassociation.com>

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:35:03 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kengy Gramberg	Testifying for Honolulu Ocean Safety & Lifeguard Service™s	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
KENGY Gramberg

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:49:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan	Testifying for ocean safety	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
Dylan Gleed

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 3:32:33 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Makena Hart	Testifying for ESC Ocean Safety Division	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
Makena Hart

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/15/2020 9:00:26 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:17:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noland Tamashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
Aka Tamashiro

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:18:41 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle Foyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Ocean safety lifeguards are in need of their own bargaining unit. Please support this

Thank you

Kyle Foyle

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:22:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Loganbill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 2251

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
David Loganbill

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:34:28 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryan Phillips	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of SB 2251

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support SB 2251 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
BRYAN PHILLIPS

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:44:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
eugene teixeira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
Eugene Teixeira

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 2:50:49 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kale sylvia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 3:34:37 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christian Hemmings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2251 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo, Christian Hemmings

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 3:50:39 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Loganbill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a City & County lifeguard for over 30 years, I strongly support this bill. BU 14 has been very helpful to State Law Enforcement and County lifeguards, and though we both serve in the interest of public safety, we also have very different duties and responsibilities. This bill would allow negotiators on both sides to more efficiently address the needs and requirements of both groups while taking into account those unique duties and responsibilities. Mahalo, James Loganbill

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 3:53:10 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jaron Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in full SUPPORT of SB 2251.

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 3:58:25 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ikaika won	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of SB2251

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support SB2251 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,

Ikaika Won

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 4:32:08 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harold Teshima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

My name is Harold Teshima and I am in SUPPORT of HB 1698 HD1.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,

Harold Teshima

SB-2251

Submitted on: 2/18/2020 7:16:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/20/2020 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jude parker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 18, 2020

In SUPPORT of SB 2251

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
Jude K Parker