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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## **WRITTEN ONLY**

TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NOS. 2783, 2784, 2785, 2787, 2789, 2794 AND 2795

February 18, 2022 10:00 a.m. Room 211 and Videoconference

## RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Department of Budget and Finance supports moving these measures, or similar ones, as re-opener negotiations are currently in progress and vehicle bills may be necessary if an agreement is reached or arbitration award is issued requiring an appropriation prior to the end of the legislative session.

These measures appropriate and authorize appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for salary adjustments and other cost adjustments for Fiscal Biennium 2021-23.

The bargaining units (BU) addressed in the bills and the bill number for the Administration measure for that BU are as follows: Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 2783 (S.B. No. 3060), BU 2; S.B. No. 2784 (S.B. No. 3061), BU 3; S.B. No. 2785 (S.B. No. 3062), BU 4; S.B. No. 2787 (S.B. No. 3063), BU 6; S.B. No. 2789 (S.B. No. 3064), BU 8; S.B. No. 2794 (S.B. No. 3068), BU 13; and S.B. No. 2795 (S.B. No. 3069), BU 14.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

## HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO



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## The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii The Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 18, 2022

S.B. 2783, S.B. 2784, S.B. 2785, S.B. 2787, S.B. 2789, S.B. 2790, S.B. 2794, S.B. 2795, S.B. 2796 – RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of S.B. 2783, S.B. 2784, S.B. 2785, S.B. 2787, S.B. 2789, S.B. 2790, S.B. 2794, S.B. 2795, and S.B. 2796, each of which provides a funding vehicle to implement collective bargaining agreements for Bargaining Units 02, 03, 04, 06, 08, 09, 13, 14, and 15 respectively, for the fiscal biennium 2021 – 2023.

On January 15, 2022, our registered professional nurses in bargaining unit 09 ratified a successor 4-year contract, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025. We respectfully request S.B. 2790 be amended to include the appropriate funding amounts and defer to the Employer to provide the cost estimates.

Although we are in the middle of the negotiations process with the Employer, no other units have reached agreement, therefore those respective bills contain no appropriations at this time. We respectfully request the Committee pass these vehicle bills in case we are able to settle our contracts prior to adjournment.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the above referenced measures.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy/Perreira
Executive Director