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LUIS P. SALAVERIA

SABRINA NASIR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWA'! EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150

HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY ON

HOUSE BILL NOS. 1000, H.D. 1; 1001, H.D. 1; 1002, H.D. 1; 1003, H.D. 1; 1004, H.D. 1; 1005, H.D. 1; 1006, H.D. 1; 1007, H.D. 1; 1008, H.D. 1; 1009, H.D. 1; 1010, H.D. 1; AND 1012, H.D. 1

March 13, 2023 3:00 p.m. Room 224 and Videoconference

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Department of Budget and Finance supports moving these Administration proposals, or similar bills, as collective bargaining negotiations, or re-opener negotiations, are currently in progress and vehicle bills may be necessary if an agreement is reached 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 2023-25.

The bargaining units (BU) addressed in the bills are as follows: House Bill (H.B.) No. 1000, H.D. 1, BU 1; H.B. No. 1001, H.D. 1, BU 2; H.B. No. 1002, H.D. 1, BU 3; H.B. No. 1003, H.D. 1, BU 4; H.B. No. 1004, H.D. 1, BU 5; H.B. No. 1005, H.D. 1, BU 6; H.B. No. 1006, H.D. 1, BU 7; H.B. No. 1007, H.D. 1, BU 8; H.B. No. 1008, H.D. 1, BU 9; H.B. No. 1009, H.D. 1, BU 10; H.B. No. 1010, H.D. 1, BU 11; and H.B. No. 1012, H.D. 1, BU 14.

Please note that H.B. No. 1011 for BU 13, which also has re-opener negotiations pending, has not been included for this hearing.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



Senate Committee on Labor and Technology Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

March 13, 2023 Conference Room 224 and via Videoconference 3:00 p.m Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony Supporting House Bill 1009, HD1 Relating to Public Employment Cost Items

Provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (10) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2023-2025. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H. Chief Executive Officer Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation

Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC") strongly supports HB 1009, HD1

HHSC is bound by the public sector union collective bargaining pay increases that are negotiated by the State of Hawaii and arbitration awards. This is because HHSC only has one vote as a jurisdiction while the State of Hawaiii administration holds the majority of the votes. Given that salaries and benefits expenses comprise approximately 80% of HHSC's total operating expenses, collective bargaining pay raises represent a significant cost burden that HHSC's facilities simply cannot absorb. As an example, the impact of collective bargaining pay increases were over \$24 million for fiscal years 2018-2019, over \$30 million for fiscal years 2020-2021, and over \$15 million in fiscal years 2022-2023, all of which have been appropriated to HHSC via special fund appropriations. This means that HHSC is not provided any additional specific funding to pay for these raises. For fiscal year 2024-2025, the estimated cost of collective bargaining pay raises is estimated to be almost \$12.7 million in fiscal year 2024.

Accordingly, HHSC needs a **general fund appropriation** to pay for the proposed raises.

Page 2 HB 1009, HD1

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.