JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

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

LUIS P. SALAVERIA DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAI'I **DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

> P.O. BOX 150 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2374, H.D. 1

> February 27, 2024 10:00 a.m. **Room 308 and Videoconference**

MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST **ITEMS**

The Department of Budget and Finance supports moving this Administration proposal, or a similar bill, as collective bargaining (CB) negotiations regarding the issue of temporary hazard pay 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 CB cost items for salary adjustments and other cost adjustments for Fiscal Biennium 2023-25 for the Hawai'i Government Employees Association, Bargaining Units 2, 3, 4, 9, 13, and 14.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Finance February 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

By

Kalbert K. Young

Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer

University of Hawai'i System

HB 2374 HD1 – MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i **supports** HB 2374 HD1, Making Emergency Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items. This bill makes emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Units (2), (3), (4), (9), (13), and (14) and their excluded counterparts for fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



House Committee on Finance Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

February 27, 2024 Via Videoconference Conference Room 308 10:00 a.m. Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony in Strong Support HB 2374, HD1 Relating to Making Emergency Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items.

Makes emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Units (2), (3), (4), (9), (13), and (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

Edward N. Chu
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC") **strongly supports** HB 2374, HD1.

HHSC is bound by the public sector union collective bargaining pay increases that are negotiated by the State of Hawaii and arbitration awards. Despite our progress in financial and operational performance, HHSC is unable to keep up with collective bargaining pay increases and future mandated increases in the fringe rate for pension and retiree health insurance costs (OPEB). The inability to generate sufficient revenue to cover these costs led to reductions in personnel and services in fiscal year 2016, and may lead to future reductions in personnel and services unless sufficient general fund or emergency appropriations are provided to cover these rising costs.

Accordingly, HHSC needs a general fund appropriation to pay for any cost items included in this bill.

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

HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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

The Thirty-Second Legislature, State of Hawaii The House of Representatives Committee on Finance

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 27, 2024

H.B. 2374, H.D. 1 – MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the passage of H.B. 2374, H.D. 1 which makes emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Units (2), (3), (4), (9), (13), and (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

We respectfully request that this measure be passed to cover the cost of any collective bargaining cost item(s).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of H.B. 2374, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted.

Randy Pérreira

Executive Director



HB-2374-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2024 1:33:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karlen Ross	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representatives of the FIN committee,

I am submitting testimony in SUPPORT of HB2374.

I joined the civil service six years ago (HGEA Unit 3), and am proud to work for the State of Hawai'i and directly serve the people of our community. Because of the type of sensitive work our department does, during the pandemic we were classified as 1-B essential workers and did not have the ability to work remotely. When our own government was telling people to only interact with people within our own households, we still had to report to work and provide the public needed services.

Because we were at risk of catching and spreading a potentially life-threatening illness at work, we are entitled to be fairly compensated as outlined in our contracts. I am asking you to not delay and to please PASS HB2374

I thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Mahalo,

Karlen Ross