Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Labor & Government Operations February 9, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

By

Kalbert K. Young

Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer

University of Hawai'i System

HB 1008 - RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Garrett, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i **supports** HB 1008, Relating to Public Employment Cost Items. This bill provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Unit 9 and their excluded counterparts for fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

Although an agreement between the employer and the employees has not yet been reached, this bill serves as a vehicle should such an agreement occur.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR OF HAMA

LUIS P. SALAVERIA

SABRINA NASIR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM HAWA!'I 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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS ON

HOUSE BILL NOS. 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007, 1008, 1009, 1010, 1011, AND 1012

February 9, 2023 9:30 a.m. Room 309 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, BU 1; H.B. No. 1001, BU 2; H.B. No. 1002, BU 3; H.B. No. 1003, BU 4; H.B. No. 1004, BU 5; H.B. No. 1005, BU 6; H.B. No. 1006, BU 7; H.B. No. 1007, BU 8; H.B. No. 1008, BU 9; H.B. 1009, BU 10; H.B. 1010, BU 11; H.B. No. 1011, BU 13; and H.B. No. 1012, BU 14.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

AFSCME AFSCME

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 Labor and Government Operations

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 9, 2023

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the passage of H.B. 1001, H.B. 1002, H.B. 1003, H.B. 1005, H.B. 1007, H.B. 1008, H.B. 1011, and H.B. 1012 which provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for bargaining units 02, 03, 04, 06, 08, 09,13, and 14.

We respectfully request that all measures be passed to cover the cost of any collective bargaining cost item(s), including any pending negotiations on EUTF premiums with the employer.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of the passage of these measures.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director



House Committee on Labor & Government Operations Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair Representative Andrew Takuya Garrett, Vice Chair

February 9, 2023 Via Videoconference Conference Room 309 9:30 a.m. Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony Supporting House Bill 1008 Relating to public employment cost items.

Provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Unit (9) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

CHAIR Matayoshi, VICE CHAIR Garrett, AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:

House Bill No. 1008 provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Unit (9) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC") strongly supports this bill.

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 Hawaii 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

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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.

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