

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2249
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Labor, to which was referred H.B. No. 2249
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CIVIL SERVICE EXEMPT POSITIONS
WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to permanently exempt certain
positions within the Public Works Division's Special Project
Branch and the Comptroller's Office from state civil service and
collective bargaining laws.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and
Tourism; Department of Accounting and General Services; and Hawaii
Community Development Authority. Your Committee received
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government
Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Accounting and
General Services increasingly undertakes unique and highly
specialized public works projects requiring rapid staffing
flexibility that traditional civil service processes cannot
readily support. The growing demand for specialized personnel in
communications, change management, and business process
improvement further underscores the need for the Department to



swiftly recruit and deploy qualified staff. Allowing designated positions to be exempt from civil service law and collective bargaining ensures the Department can efficiently fill these roles and maintain continuity in delivering complex statewide projects.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes a concern regarding a potential title conflict with the contents of the measure and respectfully requests your Committee on Finance, should they deliberate on this measure, to confer with the Department of the Attorney General regarding this concern.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2249, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2249, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Labor,



JACKSON D. SARAMA, Chair



