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**In Strong Opposition of HB 2165 HD 1 Relating to the Hawaii Employment Security Law**

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Grandinetti, and members of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee,

My name is Rosalee Agas-Yuu, the President of Hawai'i Nurses' Association, OPEIU Local 50, and we are testifying in Strong Opposition of HB 2165 HD 1. We have over 4,000 members in Healthcare all across Hawaii and would be affected by this bill. We had over 2,800 nurse members (at Kapi'iolani Medical Center for Women and Children for 7 days and Wilcox Medical Center for 3 days) that voted to strike over the past two years that were standing up for safe staffing in order to provide better care for their patients, who are also members of the Hawaii community.

I will quote from the Local 5 testimony:

“This appears to us as a gift to corporations who mistreat and disrespect their employees. When workers strike, they are making big sacrifices and taking big risks. They don't do it for fun – they do it to provide for the future for their own families, for their coworkers' families, and for future generations of employees. It is a difficult decision, and this legislation would only make it more difficult and put more pressure on workers to accept whatever conditions the corporations and their investors want to impose on them in their attempts to maximize profits”.

In addition, Close to 600 members at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children were LOCKED OUT for 22 days by the Employer. Our members were able to apply for unemployment as it was a long period of time that the nurses were unable to collect a paycheck. This bill appears to be in support of the Employer to lockout the rest of the working union groups in Hawaii.

Please Do **Not** Pass HB 2165 HD 1.

Sincerely,

*Rosalee Agas-Yuu*

Rosalee Agas-Yuu

President

Hawai'i Nurses' Association, OPEIU Local 50

**Name of addressee**

Date

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**LATE**

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