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TESTIMONY BY SETH S. COLBY, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY
ON
HOUSE BILL NOS. 2272, H.D. 1, AND 2273, H.D. 1

March 16, 2026
3:00 p.m.
Room 225 and Videoconference

MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Department of Budget and Finance supports moving these Administration proposals, or similar bills, as collective bargaining (CB) negotiations are currently in progress and vehicle bills may be necessary if an agreement is reached or arbitration award is issued 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 2025-27.

The bargaining units (BU) addressed in the bills are as follows: House Bill (H.B.) No. 2272, H.D. 1, BU 11, and H.B. No. 2273, H.D. 1, BU 14.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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The Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Labor and Technology

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 16, 2026

H.B. 2273, H.D. 1 – MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC
EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports H.B. 2273, H.D. 1, which makes emergency appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Bargaining Unit (14) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

We respectfully request that this measure be passed to cover the cost of any collective bargaining cost items.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of H.B. 2273, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director