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**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT**  
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February 10, 2008

**TESTIMONY TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT**

For Hearing on February 12, 2008  
8:50 a.m., Conference Room 309

BY

MARIE C. LADERTA, DIRECTOR

**House Bill No. 2272**  
**Relating to Qualified Community Rehabilitation Programs**

TO CHAIRPERSON ALEX M. SONSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

Act 191, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007 (House Bill No. 1171) amended §76-77, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to establish a new subsection (16) to allow the counties to enter into contracts with private persons or entities for services lasting no more than one year and at cost of no more than \$750,000. House Bill No. 2272 amends the new subsection to provide that personal services with qualified community rehabilitation programs, as defined in Section 103D-1001, shall be exempt from the \$750,000 limit.

The Department of Human Resources Development (DHRD), **supports** this bill and also respectfully requests that §76-16, HRS, be amended to provide an exemption from civil service to State departments and agencies to contract for services with qualified community rehabilitation programs.

In passing H.B. 1171 last year, the legislature recognized that the counties need flexibility to contract for services. State departments and agencies that provide community rehabilitation services also need flexibility to contract for services when needed services cannot be provided by authorized positions and staff. At times, the number of authorized positions is not sufficient to meet the needs of State programs and additional services are temporarily required. In other situations, authorized positions are available, but the positions cannot be filled due to recruitment difficulties or cannot be filled quickly enough because the need for additional services is immediate.

If the new exemption to contract for services is extended to the State, the State is committed to using the exemption judiciously and in a fashion which will not negatively impact or displace civil service employees.

We urge you to pass this bill and provide the same exemption to contract for service to the State. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Respectfully Submitted,

MARIE C. LADERTA



# HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME LOCAL 152, AFL-CIO

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The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Committee on Labor and Public Employment

Testimony by  
HGEA/AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO  
February 12, 2008

**H.B. 2272 – RELATING TO**  
**QUALIFIED REHABILITATION**  
**PROGRAMS**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO opposes this measure. During the 2007 Regular Session, we worked collaboratively with the counties and other interested parties to pass H.B. 1171, C.D. 1, which became Act 191, SLH 2007. This measure exempts contracts for personal services with private persons or entities lasting no more than one year and at a cost of \$750,000 or less. Given that it has been less than one year since Act 191 took effect, it is premature to make a change. We do not believe this amendment to Section 76-77, HRS, is necessary, nor do we support lifting the exemption for qualified rehabilitation organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N.A. Nomura', written over a horizontal line.

Nora A. Nomura  
Deputy Executive Director