



February 7, 2008

Representative Alex M. Son Son Chair
Representative Bob Nakasone, Vice-Chair

Committee on Labor & Public Employment:

DATE: Friday February 8, 2008
TIME: 8:30 A.M.
PLACE: Conference Room 325
State Capitol

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2336 RELATING
TO THE EMPLOYMENT RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Chairman and Members of the House Labor & Public Employment Committee:

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua and I am State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). UPW/AFSCME supports House Bill 2336. HB 2336 increases the retirement allowance for certain public safety oriented positions under the state employees' retirement system from 2-1/2 to 3% for each of credited services.

House Bill 3247 **directly** addresses the retention and recruitment for our correction officers. A key component to recruitment and retention is pay and **benefits**. This bill addresses our benefits. Currently there is a shortage of prisons guards, we are facing a critical time when the state and counties are facing a shortage of labor. With additional incentive we can move into a direction that will attract labor. Added incentives will allow us to compete with private sector jobs. This measure takes the right step in the right direction for public employment.

UPW urges this Honorable Committee to pass HB 2336.