

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR



KENNETH G. SILVA  
FIRE CHIEF

ALVIN K. TOMITA  
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

February 26, 2008

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair  
Committee on Finance  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 306  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**LATE**

Dear Chair Oshiro:

Subject: H.B. 2710, H.D. 1 Relating to the Reemployment of Retirees

I am Kenneth G. Silva, Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The HFD supports H.B. 2710, H.D. 1, which proposes to allow county governments the ability to hire retired state or county government employees without restriction as to the length of employment or the number of hours worked per week. This will remedy the county governments' need to hire qualified and experienced personnel without the current limitations of an 89-day contract and will benefit retirees who desire to continue working without incurring negative retirement consequences. The HFD believes this proposal to be a win-win situation for employers and employees.

The HFD strongly urges your committee's passage of H.B. 2710, H.D. 1.

Should you have any questions, please call HFD Legislative Liaison Lloyd Rogers at 723-7171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kenneth G. Silva".

KENNETH G. SILVA  
Fire Chief

KGS/LR:cn



Working Together for Hawaii

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance

Testimony by  
HGEA/AFSCME, Local 152, AFL-CIO  
February 26, 2008

H.B. 2710, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE  
RE-EMPLOYMENT OF RETIREES.

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports this measure as amended by the Committee on Labor and Public Employment. H.B. 2710 proposes rehiring state and county retirees into any vacant position without adversely affecting their retirement benefits. Changing demographics and low unemployment rates makes rehiring experienced and well-qualified retirees an important consideration. We appreciate that the bill was amended to allow hiring of retirees only for "hard to fill" or shortage category positions.

The future of civil service depends upon active recruitment of those applicants with the skills, abilities and commitment to a government career. This includes current employees who should be considered for promotional opportunities under the civil service merit system. Reliance upon retirees will not encourage the recruitment and promotion of these career employees. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 2710, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nora A. Nomura", is written over the typed name.

Nora A. Nomura  
Legislative Officer