



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

AFSCME LOCAL 152, AFL-CIO

888 MILILANI STREET, SUITE 601 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2991



Randy Perreira *Executive Director*
Tel: 808 543-0011 Fax: 808 528-0922

Nora A. Nomura *Deputy Executive Director*
Tel: 808 543-0003 Fax: 808 528-0922

Derek M. Mizuno *Deputy Executive Director*
Tel: 808 543-0055 Fax: 808 523-6879

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 8, 2008

LATE TESTIMONY

**H.B. 2848 – RELATING TO
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of this measure. H.B. 2848 proposes rehiring state and county retirees into critical-to-fill or labor shortage positions without adversely affecting their retirement benefits. In addition, to qualify for full-time employment, the retiree must be retired at least one year prior to reemployment. Changing demographics and low unemployment rates makes rehiring experienced and well-qualified retirees for critical-to-fill positions an important consideration.

However, we believe 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. Widespread reliance upon retirees will not encourage the recruitment and promotion of these career employees or address the challenges of succession planning.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director