



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 12, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Alex M. Sonson, Chair
House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

FROM: Lillian B. Koller, Director

SUBJECT: **H. B. 3139 - RELATING TO THE FIRST-TO-WORK PROGRAM**
Hearing: Tuesday, February 12, 2008, 8:50 a.m.
Conference Room 309, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H. B. 3139 is to conform State law to the current Federal law that requires applicants and recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Temporary Assistance for Other Needy Families (TAONF) to participate in work activities.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services strongly supports this Administration bill. This bill will conform State law to current Federal law by deleting references to the Aid to Families with Dependent Children and Job Opportunities and Basic Skills Act that have been replaced with the current Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) law. The First-To Work program is the work component of the TANF program. This bill will allow the Department to recognize current Federal regulations, as well as flexibility to adjust to future Federal regulatory changes pertaining to the First-To-Work Program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.