

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony from Alfred C. Lardizabal
Government and Community Relations Director
Labors' Union Local 368

In Support of SB2145 RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS

To the

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Rm. 016, 9:00 a.m.
January 31, 2008

Honorable Senator Brian Taniguchi, Chair, Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor: SB2145 requires that funds for bills that are passed into law through a veto override, must be released within 90 days of passage.

The Hawaii State Constitution, Article III, *The Legislature* (and) *Legislative Power*, Section 17, *Procedures Upon Veto*, provides in part that, "If after such reconsideration such bill, or such item or items, shall be approved by two-thirds vote of all members to which each house is entitled, the same shall become law." Thus, a bill becomes law by an override vote by the Legislature and the Executive is therefore, obligated to comply.

We suggest however, that the intent of the Legislature be supported further by adding proviso language in each appropriation bill to the effect that the appropriated funds must be released within 90 days of passage of a bill through a veto override.

Enactment of SB2145 would provide agencies receiving appropriated funds some measure of confidence that funding would be available and therefore, better able to plan projects, in particular, construction projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit supporting testimony on this important measure.