

Honorable Representative Robert Herkes, Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection  
Hawaii State Capital  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN SUPPORT OF HB627, RELATING TO CONTRACTORS  
Hearing: Thursday, January 29, 2009

Dear Chair Herkes, and the House Committee on Consumer Protection:

The Ironworkers Stabilization Fund and the Ironworkers Union Local 625 STRONGLY SUPPORTS the passage of HB627, which amends §444-10.5, HRS, to prohibit the resumption of work for any person who is issued a citation for operating without a contractor's license in good standing until a hearing is conducted, and makes the issuance of citations and cease and desist orders mandatory.

As Section 444-10.5, Citation for unlicensed activity presently reads, an unlicensed contractor can continue to operate until the lengthy hearing and appeal process is exhausted. It should stand to reason that the Contractors Licensing Board under the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs should know *immediately* whether or not a person is licensed by simply checking its records. If the board's records show that the person is NOT licensed, common sense should dictate that the department's order for the person to cease and desist should also take effect *immediately*. If the suspension does not take effect immediately, the potential damage that said person could cause to the unsuspecting homeowner and the general public will only become greater. Only after the proper license is obtained should said person be able to commence work.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of HB 627