

SB 2178

HAWAII COUNCIL OF MAYORS



Testimony of the

Hawaii Council of Mayors

Bernard Carvalho, Jr., Mayor of Kauai County
Mufi Hannemann, Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu
Billy Kenoi, Mayor of Hawaii County
Charmaine Tavares, Mayor of Maui County

Before a Hearing of the
**Senate Committee on Transportation,
International and Intergovernmental Affairs**

January 25, 2010
1:15 p.m.

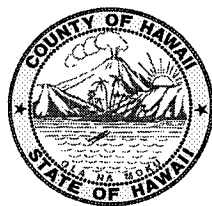
Senate Bill 2178, Relating to Counties

The Hawaii Council of Mayors supports Senate Bill 2178, which provides the counties with the authority to determine the appropriate appointment and removal procedures for the respective personnel directors pursuant to the charter of each county.

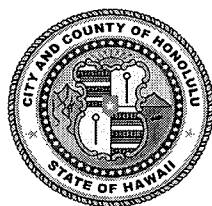
The Hawai'i State constitution, Article VIII, Section 2, authorizes the counties to frame and adopt a charter for their own self-government.

Current State law only requires the personnel directors of Hawai'i, Kaua'i and Maui counties to be appointed and removed by their respective merit appeals board (also defined as "civil service commission" under H.R.S. §76-11).

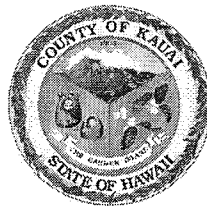
Although the statute does not define the method of appointing the human resources director for the City & County of Honolulu, their charter authorizes the Mayor to appoint the director.



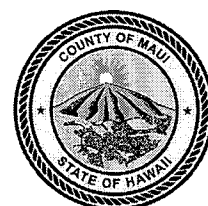
Mayor Billy Kenoi
County of Hawaii
25 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720



Mayor Mufi Hannemann
City and County of Honolulu
530 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr.
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 235
Lihue, Hawaii 96766



Mayor Charmaine Tavares
County of Maui
200 South High Street, 9th Floor
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

The charters of each of the other counties also contain provisions for the establishment and functions of a personnel or human resources department including the manner in which the director is hired and removed.

In keeping with the principle of self-governance provided for in the State constitution, the procedures for appointing and removing county administrative department heads, such as the personnel director, should rightfully be under the sole jurisdiction and authority of the counties.

For the reasons stated above, the Hawaii State Council of Mayors requests your favorable consideration and support of S.B. No. 2178.

Thank you.

**MATRIX
OF COUNTY CHARTER APPOINTMENT METHODOLOGIES
FOR PERSONNEL DIRECTOR**

	Kauai County	Honolulu City & County	Maui County	Hawaii County
Personnel Director	<p>“...shall be appointed and may be removed by the [civil service] commission.”</p> <p><i>Kauai Charter Sec. 15.04</i></p>	<p>“...shall be appointed and may be removed by the mayor only for cause after being given a written statement of the charges and a hearing before the council thereon, if the director of human resources so requests.”</p> <p><i>Honolulu Charter Sec. 6-1105</i></p>	<p>“...shall be appointed and may be removed by the civil service commission. The director may be removed by the civil service commission only after being informed in writing of the charges that are resulting in the director’s dismissal, and after being given a hearing before the commission.”</p> <p><i>Maui Charter Sec. 8-9.2</i></p>	<p>“...shall be appointed by the merit appeals board and may be removed by the merit appeals board.”</p> <p><i>Hawaii Charter Sec. 7-1.3</i></p>