



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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

LATE TESTIMONY

The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State House of Representatives
Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
March 16, 2010

**S.B. 2323, H.D. 1 - RELATING
TO EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports S.B. 2323, H.D. 1, which requires the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to either allow individuals to post job-availability online independently, or post the information online for the individual after the individual provides the necessary information on a form prescribed by the department.

The proposal addresses what is an unnecessary burden, that claimants must have computer access and be computer literate. Many in our community are still unfamiliar with the internet and lack computer skills as basic as how to turn on the computer. An October 2, 2009 msnbc.com article reported that Hawaii officials assessed the online jobs network and determined that "Fully 60 percent of job-seekers 'do not have adequate computer skills or access to the internet and have difficulty in navigating HireNet Hawaii on their own.'"

The HGEA urges passage of the bill to improve accessibility to the Unemployment Insurance system for our entire community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 2323, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura
Deputy Executive Director