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HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

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The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
House of Representatives
Committee on Labor and Public Employment
February 8, 2011

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

H.B. NO. 1038 RELATING TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association, Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. HFFA represents the 2,800 active and retired professional fire fighters throughout the State. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on H.B. No. 1038.

As proposed, HFFA cannot support this measure although we appreciate that H.B. No. 1038 retains the current benefit calculation and structure for current employees. HFFA has serious concerns of the drastic changes found in H.B. No. 1038. We are very cognizant that the funded ratio level is approximately 61% and are aware that benefits and contributions are subject to review but respectfully request full and forthright discussion continue to allow for reasonable reform to the system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on H.B. No. 1038.