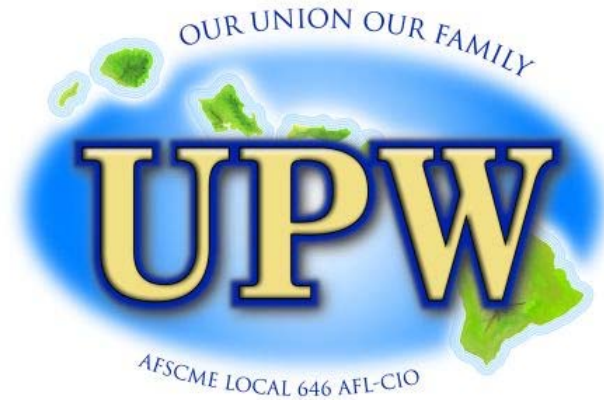


HB467,HD2

Testimony



**Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Hearing Date: March 15, 2011**

Testimony By United Public Workers

Re: HB 467, HD2 – RELATING TO WHISTLEBLOWERS’ PROTECTION

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua and I am the State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO. The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for public employees in bargaining Unit 1 blue collar non-supervisory and Unit 10 institutional, health and correctional facilities.

The United Public Workers support the intent and purpose of H.B. 467, HD2, which provides additional protection to public employees who report violations of the law or improper activities that may threaten the health or safety of workers, and assists their ability in pursuing relief. This bill also expands the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations’ responsibilities when dealing with whistleblowers’ protection for State and County employees.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of H.B. 467, HD2.

From: [Dara Carlin, M.A.](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: LATE TESTIMONY: HB467 HD2 to be heard Tuesday, March 15th at 9:30am in Room 016
Date: Monday, March 14, 2011 1:35:32 PM
Importance: High

TO: Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Judiciary & Labor Committee Members

FROM: Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate
881 Akiu Place
Kailua, HI 96734

DATE: 03/15/11

RE: SUPPORT for HB467 HD2

Good Morning Senators. It's kind of sad that there has to be legislation put into place to try to assure adequate protection for whistleblowers but it's even sadder that there are any whistleblowers to begin with.

For those who have the gifts, talents and experience to become leaders, executives, supervisors and management, I'll never understand how those who've been chosen, honored and entrusted with so much can opt to throw that all away and at the expense of others for self-serving reasons. It is said that "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely" which is a far cry from "With great power comes great responsibility". For all of our sakes, I hope the latter statement is still the predominant value.

What never ceases to amaze me is that when people get called on the carpet for doing something wrong/immoral/illegal, they're angry at the person who caught them or turned them in; it seems to TOTALLY escape them that their own actions have brought them to their unpleasant consequence.

Anyone can imagine the plight of a whistleblower who is thinking about taking the courageous steps to come forward. Their efforts should be rewarded for exposing whatever corruption there may be, but in absence of that, protection and enhanced protection should be the least we could afford them.

Respectfully,

Dara Carlin, M.A.
Domestic Violence Survivor Advocate