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**From:** Carol Pregill [admin@rmhawaii.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 02, 2011 10:51 AM  
**To:** JDLTestimony  
**Subject:** Hearing - Thursday, February 3rd at 11:00 am  
**Attachments:** Testimony11-SB1089-DislocatedWorkers-JDLdoc.pdf

**FROM: Carol Pregill, President, Retail Merchants of Hawaii**

**FOR: Committee on Judiciary & Labor**  
**Thursday, February 03, 2011**  
**11:00 am**  
**SB1089**  
**Conference Room 016**

**Please see attached. Thank you.**

*Carol*

Carol Pregill, President  
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Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

HEARING      Thursday, February 03, 2011  
                  11:00 am  
                  Conference Room 016

**RE:    SB1089, Relating to Dislocated Workers**

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a not-for-profit trade organization representing 200 members and over 2,000 storefronts, and is committed to support the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii. The retail industry is the one of the largest single employers in the state, employing almost 24% of the labor force.

**RMH strongly opposes SB1089**, which essentially redefines "covered establishment" to include as few as one employee.

This bill is an infringement on the basic rights of ownership that seriously impacts the value of a business and the ability of an owner to divest, sell or transfer that business operation. It further discourages investment in Hawaii by severely restricting the options for potential new owners by dissuading any development and/or diversification possibilities. At a time when Hawaii should be encouraging new enterprise in our state to accelerate economic recovery, this bill is a giant step in the opposite direction and could have the undesirable result of more companies just closing their doors for lack of viable alternatives.

The members of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii respectfully request that you hold SB1089. Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Carol Pregill', is written in black ink.

Carol Pregill, President

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