



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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To: The Honorable Marcus Oshiro, Chair;
The Honorable Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair; and
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 308, State Capitol

From: Dwight Y. Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. No. 2573 Relating to Apprenticeship

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

H.B. No. 2573 amends the apprenticeship law, chapter 372, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to conform to federal regulations. The department supports this Administration measure.

II. CURRENT LAW

The current state law was originally written in the 1940's with few major changes since that time. The department is seeking renewal of its federal recognition as a State Apprenticeship Agency to administer apprenticeship programs in the State of Hawaii. A pre-requisite for renewal is an amendment to the current state law to conform to federal regulations that were published in December 2008. The department has until December 31, 2012 to obtain the appropriate amendments in state law and make other changes necessary for continued recognition as a State Apprenticeship Agency.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

The U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship, requires all State Apprenticeship Agencies to revise their state laws and/or rules pursuant to title 29 Code of Federal Regulations, part 29. The new federal regulations recognize that technological advances, demographic changes, and globalization have significantly altered the context in which apprenticeship programs operate. The regulations contain new concepts such as competency-based training and provisional approvals of new apprenticeship programs.

H.B. 2573 also makes a few minor housekeeping changes in language to conform to the new regulations and deletes some portions of the existing statute, which will be included in revisions to the administrative rules.

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



Testimony of C. Mike Kido
External Affairs
The Pacific Resource Partnership

House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair

HB 2573 – Relating to Apprenticeship
Tuesday, February 28, 2012
3:00 pm
Conference Room 308

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs of the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP generally supports those measures that generate consistency between state and federal laws, and HB 2573 would bring the Chapter 372, Hawaii Revised Statutes into alignment with the title 9 Code of Federal Regulations, part 29.

Maintaining the department's federal recognition as a State Apprenticeship Agency will have many benefits. Apprenticeship programs provide participants with an invaluable educational experience, outstanding benefits and steadfast contractual protection on the job. They enable employers to develop and apply industry standards to training programs, and this increases productivity and improves the quality of the workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views with you. We respectfully ask for your support on HB 2573.



Hawaii Chapter

February 28, 2012

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**Testimony of Associated Builders and Contractors Hawaii Chapter in
Strong Support to HB 2573**

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee; thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter. My name is Malcolm Barcarse, Jr. I am the 2012 Board Chair and the Legislative Committee Chair of Associated Builders and Contractors Hawaii Chapter. We are an association of over 150 members representing the merit shop contracting industry in Hawaii.

As a certified apprenticeship program by the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations we stand in **strong support** of HB 2573. This bill conforms the State's apprenticeship law to federal standards. This is necessary to allow the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to continue to administer apprenticeship programs such as ours beyond December 31, 2012. We believe that apprenticeship is the lifeblood of the construction industry as it provides top quality training to apprentices and perpetuates the trades to future generations of construction workers. Therefore we ask for that the committee pass this bill without delay.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

America's Best Contractors