



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

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January 30, 2012

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair, Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair,
and Members of the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Date: Friday, February 3, 2012
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 309, State Capitol

From: Dwight Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

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

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

H.B. No. 2573 amends the apprenticeship law, Chapter 372, 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 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.

yamashita2 ----Aulii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 2:20 PM
To: LABtestimony
Cc: Lardizabal@local368.org
Subject: Testimony for HB2573 on 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for LAB 2/3/2012 9:00:00 AM HB2573

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Al lardizabal
Organization:
E-mail: Lardizabal@local368.org
Submitted on: 2/1/2012

Comments:

HB2573 will align the state apprenticeship programs with the revised federal government regulations to provide a framework for the following: "a) promotes apprenticeship and advances the National Apprenticeship System, b)protects the welfare of the apprentices, c) provides consistency and accountability across the system to enhance program quality and performance, d)creates flexibility within the apprenticeship model and aligns it with the needs of a new generation of workers and a broad range of employers".

The Pacific Resource
PARTNERSHIP



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

House Committee on Labor and Public Employment
Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

HB 2573 – Relating to Apprenticeship
Friday, February 3, 2012
9:00 am
Conference Room 309

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Yamashita, 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.