



LATE

TESTIMONY
February 1, 2011

Contact: Frances Nuar, Policy Analyst
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii
(office) 808-591-9193
frances@grassrootinstitute.org

www.GrassrootInstitute.org
[facebook.com/GrassrootInstitute](https://www.facebook.com/GrassrootInstitute)
Twitter: @GrassrootHawaii

TESTIMONY ON HB 450 RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON SALARIES

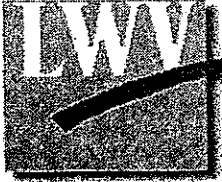
by Frances Nuar, Policy Analyst at the Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

The Grassroot Institute is in strong support of HB 450 relating to the commission on salaries. Mandating a public hearing before submitting salary recommendations to the legislature will open the legislative process to the public, increasing government accountability. Public participation in salary considerations will also eliminate the dichotomy of a 36% pay raise for legislators amidst a struggling economy in 2008.

Grassroot Institute urges you to support HB 450.

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii is an independent, non-partisan think tank based in Honolulu. The Institute's mission is to achieve a freer and more prosperous Hawaii through the principles of free markets, individual liberty and limited, more accountable government.

###



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY ON HB 450 AND HB 570, BOTH RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON SALARIES

Committee on Labor & Public Employment
Committee on Economic Revitalization & Business
Tuesday, February 01, 2011
9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
Conference Room 309

Testifier: Jean Aoki, LWV Legislative Committee

Chairs Rep. Rhoads and Rep. McKelvey, Vice Chairs Rep. Yamashita and Rep. Choy, members of LAB and ERB,

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii would like to comment on both similar bills addressing the Commission on Salaries – HB 450 and HB 570.

We support both bills on their inclusion of public hearings on proposed salary increases for certain members of the executive branch, the legislators and judges and justices. That will address one of the public's concerns as far as the process of determining the justification of such increases is concerned.

HB 570 goes further in specifying that the public hearings shall "be subject to the open meeting and public notice requirements of Chapter 92, and that the commission shall provide public notice not less than 72 hours prior to the hearing in accordance with section 1 – 28.5 ". We would like to suggest changing the word "may" to "shall" on line 17, on page 2 of HB 570, so that a summary of the comments will be available to all of the legislators.

We feel that this is especially important because the appointing authorities of the commission are only people whose salaries will be set by the commission.

We would like to suggest that hearings be held on all of the counties, but absent that, notification be sent to all of the islands inviting written comments from all.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on HB 450 and HB 570.

yamashita1-----Kristen

From: Marlene Hapai [mhapai@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011 12:32 AM
To: LABtestimony
Subject: HB 450

To: Committee on Labor and Public Employment

From: Marlene Hapai, Professor and Regent Emeritus, University of Hawaii

I hereby strongly support HB 450 relating to the Commission on Salaries mandating the commission to hold at least one public hearing before submitting their report and findings to the legislature and governor.

I strongly support this bill specifically in relation to elected officials who are elected to represent and serve the public.

The salary determination process should be open to the public to promote transparency and openness and make sure all factors are taken into consideration when public monies are assigned to compensate public servants. This more open process will also insure equity and fairness for all as we share in balancing our state's budget in these challenging economic times.

Sent from my iPhone

yamashita1-----Kristen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2011 9:49 PM
To: LABtestimony
Cc: toddhairgrove@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB450 on 2/1/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for LAB 2/1/2011 9:00:00 AM HB450

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Todd Hairgrove
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: toddhairgrove@yahoo.com
Submitted on: 1/31/2011

Comments: