

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

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.hawaii.gov/labor
Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

January 25, 2012

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair, Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Date: Thursday, March 26, 2012

Time: 2:30 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

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

Re: S.B. No. 2203 Relating to Labor

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

S.B. No. 2203 proposes two increases in the Hawai'i minimum wage, currently at \$7.25 per hour, as follows:

\$7.75 per hour beginning July 1, 2012; and

\$8.25 per hour beginning July 1, 2013.

The DLIR "is responsible for ensuring and increasing the economic security, well-being, and productivity of Hawai'i's workers,"¹ and therefore strongly supports increasing the minimum wage.

II. CURRENT LAW

The current minimum wage matches the federal minimum wage and is set at \$7.25 per hour beginning January 1, 2007.

III. COMMENTS ON HOUSE BILL

- The Department advocates that minimum wage is appropriate to prevent certain employers from exploiting their employees by establishing a wage floor for Hawai'i's workers. Hawai'i's workers deserve to regain some of the

¹§26-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

lost purchasing power since the last rise in the minimum wage on January 1, 2007. The table below illustrates the loss of buying power since the last rise in the minimum wage as well as projections, both tied to the CPI-W.

Year	Honolulu CPI-W First Half	CPI-W Percent Increase	Hawai'i Minimum Wage	\$7.25 MW Inflated by CPI-W	Current/Proposed MW minus Inflated \$7.25
2006	205.6	5.7%	\$6.75		
2007	215.681	4.9%	\$7.25		
2008	226.738	5.1%	\$7.25	\$7.62	(\$0.37)
2009	226.462	-0.1%	\$7.25	\$7.61	(\$0.36)
2010	233.089	2.9%	\$7.25	\$7.83	(\$0.58)
2011	240.874	3.3%	\$7.25	\$8.09	(\$0.84)
2012		2.8%	\$7.75	\$8.32	(\$0.57)
2013		2.5%	\$8.25	\$8.53	(\$0.28)
2014		2.5%	\$8.25	\$8.74	(\$0.49)

- The department notes that the following eighteen states and the District of Columbia have higher minimum wages than Hawai'i:

Alaska	\$7.75
Arizona	\$7.65
California	\$8.00
Colorado	\$7.64
Connecticut	\$8.25
D.C.	\$8.25
Florida	\$7.67
Illinois	\$8.25
Maine	\$7.50
Massachusetts	\$8.00
Michigan	\$7.40
Montana	\$7.65
Nevada	\$8.25
New Mexico	\$7.50
Ohio	\$7.70
Oregon	\$8.80
Rhode Island	\$7.40
Vermont	\$8.46
Washington	\$9.04

- Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands have the same rate as Hawai'i's current

minimum wage rate.

- The department believes that the higher wages earned by the minimum wage workers will likely be spent and therefore contribute to the economic recovery of the state. This measure would also allow families to make more purchases from small businesses in Hawaii that survive on the ability of workers to purchase their goods and services.
- DLIR suggests that due to planning considerations, the effective date of this measure should be changed to October 1, 2012.

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2012 1:52 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: russell.m.horikawa@hawaii.gov
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: SB2203_LBR_Testimony_1-26-12_JDL.doc

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Russell Horikawa
Organization: Dept. of Labor & Industrial Relations
E-mail: russell.m.horikawa@hawaii.gov
Submitted on: 1/25/2012

Comments:
Director Takamine will be present to testify.



HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

320 Ward Avenue, Suite 209 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Randy Perreira
President

Telephone: (808) 597-1441
Fax: (808) 593-2149

The Twenty-sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO
January 26, 2012

S.B. 2203 – RELATING TO LABOR

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO **strongly supports** S.B. 2203 which increases the minimum wage to \$7.75 for 2012 and \$8.25 from 07/01/2013.

Hawaii's cost of living is the highest in the nation; however, our minimum wage is still equal to the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour. This is truly unfortunate. States with a lower cost of living have increased their minimum wage while we sit back. States such as California, Washington, Illinois, Oregon, and even Nevada all have a higher minimum wage than Hawaii. In fact, 18 states have a higher minimum wage than Hawaii and all of them have a lower cost of living. Additionally, Santa Fe, New Mexico will raise its minimum wage to \$10.29 an hour, the highest mandatory minimum wage in the country on March 1, 2012 and a number of studies have indicated Santa Fe's living wage hasn't had a negative affect on vital components of Santa Fe's economy, such as job creation and unemployment.

Moreover, the poverty line for a family of two in Hawaii as of 2011, is \$16,930, and is increased to \$21,320 for a family of three. A full-time minimum wage worker in Hawaii who works 40 hours a week for 52 weeks would earn \$58.00 dollars a day, \$290.00 dollars a week, and a disturbingly low \$15,080.00 dollars a year. This, unfortunately for a family of two or more, is well below the poverty level. In fact, in 2009, more than 156,000 Hawaii residents were below the poverty line, a nearly 5 percent increase from 2007.

According to a report by the National Economic Council in 2000, increasing the minimum wage does not have a negative effect on employment. The National Economic Council states, "since the minimum wage increase in 1996, the economy has created more than 10 million jobs and the unemployment rate has fallen from 5.2 percent in September 1996 to 4.1 percent in February 2000, near its lowest level in thirty years. Labor market trends for workers most affected by the minimum wage increase—including younger workers, workers with lower educational levels, and minorities—also show no negative impact of the minimum wage on employment. Numerous careful economic studies, including ones by David Card and Alan Krueger, have

shown that increasing the minimum wage has no negative effect on employment. Recent research has even suggested that higher wages can increase employment, because they increase employers' ability to attract, retain, and motivate workers. And they benefit workers by increasing the reward to work."

Furthermore, a more recent study conducted in 2010 by University of California, Berkeley, economics professor Michael Reich also concludes that the minimum wage does not lead to the short- or long-term loss of low-paying jobs. Professor Michael Reich proclaims "although increasing the minimum wage can stimulate the economy by putting more money in the pockets of those most likely to spend it on necessities, he said, suggestions to raise minimum wages typically trigger fears. These fears center around the idea that raising the minimum wage would force many employers to reduce job offerings to meet a more expensive payroll, or that a "tipping point" where the minimum wage becomes too high has already been reached."

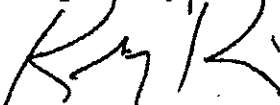
It should also be noted that eight states have increased their minimum wage during the "Great Recession". The eight states that saw an increase to their minimum wage include Colorado, Washington, Montana, Ohio, Oregon, Arizona, Florida, and Vermont. Even Mayor Bloomberg of New York has endorsed a 2012 proposal to increase New York's minimum wage above the federal level of \$7.25 an hour proclaiming "the genius of the free market is not always perfect."

In fact, some economists such as Paul Osterman, economics professor at MIT maintain raising the minimum wage to get more cash to the working poor is just as crucial as creating a large number of low-wage positions. He asserts "gradually raising the federal minimum wage to something close to that level (\$10 an hour) over the next few years would be an important first step to helping the working poor climb out of poverty, while injecting more money into the economy."

We hope the legislature recognizes the importance of raising the minimum wage and we strongly urge the passage of S.B. 2203.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,



Randy Perreira
President



888 Mililani Street, Suite 601
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2991

Telephone: 808.543.0000
Facsimile: 808 528 4059

www.hgea.org

The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate

Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

January 26, 2012

S.B. 2203 – RELATING TO LABOR

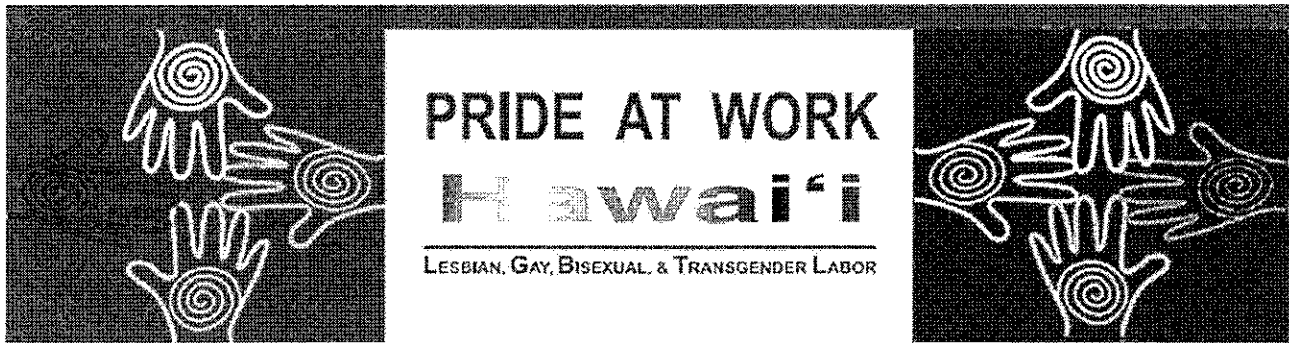
The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO **strongly supports** the purpose and intent of S.B. 2203, which increases minimum wage to \$7.75 for 2012 and \$8.25 from July 1, 2013.

This measure, if implemented, will be an investment in our economy. The current minimum hourly wage rate of \$7.25, assuming an employee works full time, provides an annual income of just \$15,080 per year, before taxes. There is no debate the cost of living in Hawaii is high, especially the cost of shelter and food. The proposed increase for the first year will put about \$1,000 into the pockets of low-wage workers, who most certainly will spend those additional earnings on goods and services in our community. We urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 2203.

Respectfully submitted,

Keioma'ama E. Desha
Deputy Executive Director



January 26, 2012

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Chair, Sen. Clayton Hee
Vice Chair, Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Testimony in support of SB 2203

Pride At Work Hawai'i, an affiliate of the Hawai'i State AFL-CIO which works to mobilize lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) workers and their supporters for full equality and to build mutual support between the labor movement and the LGBT community, **supports SB 2203**, which would take the long-overdue step of increasing Hawai'i's minimum wage by \$1.00/hour over the next 18 months.

We also propose adding language to automatically increase the minimum wage annually by no less than the annual increase in the consumer price index for Hawai'i, starting July 1, 2014. We can provide sample language for your consideration if needed.

Hawai'i's current minimum wage of \$7.25 is the same as the federal minimum wage, despite the fact that Hawai'i's cost of living is one of the highest in the US. Someone working 40 hours per week for 52 weeks at the current minimum wage earns a little over \$1,250 a month (or \$15,000 a year) - far less than what anyone could live on in Hawai'i, where average rent for a 2-bedroom unit is over \$1,700. Hawai'i's current minimum wage also hasn't increased since 2007, although the cost of living has increased over 11% in that time.

Hawai'i's poverty-level minimum wage harms the economy by increasing the need for public services and decreasing the ability of low-wage earners to afford basic necessities. It also harms working families, as wage-earners are forced to work more than 40 hours a week to make ends meet, leaving less time for their children. It is also no accident that the gap between rich and poor has increased over the last 40 years while the real value of the minimum wage has dropped dramatically.

Studies have shown that increases to the minimum wage pump more money directly into local economies, stimulating spending and helping local businesses. Minimum wage increases also lead to lower worker turnover at companies, lowering search and training costs and minimizing the additional expense of paying higher wages.

Increasing the minimum wage is especially important for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) workers. Nationally, studies consistently show that LGBT workers are typically paid less than their heterosexual peers.

We strongly urge you to support Hawai'i's economy by supporting Hawai'i's low-income working people and passing this bill. We also urge you to add language to guarantee future increases indexed to the cost of living.

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2012 12:33 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: prideatworkhawaii@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: SB2203 testimony 2012.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: **Steve Dinion**
Organization: Pride At Work Hawai'i
E-mail: prideatworkhawaii@hawaiiantel.net Submitted on: 1/25/2012

Comments:

TESTIMONY

**Libertarian Party of Hawaii
c/o 1658 Liholiho St #205
Honolulu, HI 96822**

To the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
RE SB #2203 to be heard Thursday, January 26, in Conference Room #229

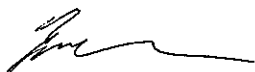
Dear Senators:

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii **opposes passage of Senate Bill #2203** relating to an increase in the minimum wage. Aside from our philosophical opposition to government interfering with the free negotiation between wage earner and employer we hold that there are strong practical reasons not to pass this legislation.

The minimum wage cannot improve the purchasing power of the workers it is aimed to help. The market place sets wage rates based on the supply and demand for the myriad different types of labor and jobs. These factors are not affected by minimum wage laws. All such laws do is make illegal any work for which the market value is lower than the minimum set by law. The idea that employers can remain in business while paying wages in excess of the market value of the labor received in exchange is false.

The best way to address the goals of this ill considered legislation is to create a strong economic environment wherein the demand for labor is high and the level of goods and services produced continues to grow and improve purchasing power. This however, would require a very different approach and world view than this legislation suggests.

Very Truly Yours:



Tracy Ryan

Vice Chair, The Libertarian Party of Hawaii
January 23, 2012



Before the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

DATE: Thursday, January 26
TIME: 2:30 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 229

SB 2203: Relating to Labor
Testimony of NFIB Hawaii

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition of SB 2203. NFIB Hawaii respectfully **opposes** this measure.

This legislation would increase minimum wage to \$7.75 for 2012 and \$8.25 from 07/01/2013. No one has greater incentive, responsibility or ability to lead an economic recovery than America's small business owners - 350,000 of whom are NFIB members. Therefore, we ask lawmakers to help ensure that public policies help spur economic growth by taking into account the unique perspective of those who own and operate a small business in America. We note that small businesses play a major role in the American economy, representing 99% of all employer firms, employing about half of private-sector employees and generating 60 – 80 percent of net new jobs annually over the last decade.

NFIB opposes increases in the current minimum wage. Mandatory wage increases hurt not only small businesses, but their employees as well. Most minimum-wage jobs are offered by small businesses. The overwhelming majority of economists continue to affirm the negative impact of mandatory wage increases on jobs. Mandatory minimum-wage increases end up reducing employment levels for those people with the lowest skills.

The National Federation of Independent Business is the largest advocacy organization representing small and independent businesses in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. In Hawaii, NFIB represents more than 1,000 members. NFIB's purpose is to impact public policy at the state and federal level and be a key business resource for small and independent business in America. NFIB also provides timely information designed to help small businesses succeed.

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:39 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: mpavlicek@hawaiiublicpolicy.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: NFIB SB 2203 Minimum Wage Increase - Oppose 12612.doc

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229

Testifier position: Oppose

Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: Melissa Pavlicek

Organization: National Federation of Independent Business

E-mail: mpavlicek@hawaiiublicpolicy.com Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

hee6 - Dinna

From: Bubbies Ice Cream [bubbiesicecream@hawaii.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 9:47 AM
To: JDLEstimony
Subject: minimum wage

Importance: High

To Whom It May Concern,

If we keep increasing costs and just keep passing it along to the employer – you will force us all either to leave Hawaii and manufacture elsewhere or shut us down completely. An increase in the minimum wage directly hurts everyone as every employee feels they should be paid at least \$1.00 an hour more also. The taxes associated with that dollar increase dramatically – workman’s comp increases and the ability to keep afloat becomes that much harder.

We are presently looking to relocate to the mainland as it becomes ludicrous to supply the world in the middle of the Pacific Ocean where everything must be brought in in regard to raw materials. That would mean 20 “good” paying jobs gone in addition to all the monies I generate for the state. The insanity must stop and you must start to realize increases across the board are killing off the very base that supports Hawaii. Increasing the minimum wage cannot happen. Do you realize that anyone that comes to work for Bubbies has no ready skills to make ice cream or mochi. I have to “eat” an employee’s salary for months before he/she becomes fairly good. An ice cream maker is a good 16 months before they are good. I start people at \$10.00 an hour – they are on the Bubbie scholarship plan – they should be paying me to learn. Increasing the minimum wage just increases the scholarship reward as they will expect more money.

Give us a break for once – a minimum wage job is based on minimal skills – increasing the amount is exemplifying the I deserve more mentally when I offer very little. Do the right thing – **KILL THE INCREASE.**

Keith B. Robbins
President
Bubbies Homemade Ice Cream & Desserts, Inc.
p: (808) 487-7218 f: (808) 484-5800
www.bubbiesicecream.com

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 9:53 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: bobs@times-supermarket.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: **Bob Stout**
Organization:
E-mail: bobs@times-supermarket.com
Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

This legislation, with such close back to back increases, **will negatively impact** the number of employees we have. Cuts will have to be made to offset the expense pushing folks onto unemployment. Retail is getting deluged with increases on freight, electrical, COGs, etc.

January 24, 2012

Ms. Signe Godfrey

President

Olsten Staffing and Executive Search

900 Fort Street Mall

Suite 1200

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear respective legislators:

I would like to submit testimony **against SB2203**. As a business owner of 25 years, I have experienced many ups and downs of the economy since 1987 especially during those times when our minimum wages were raised over these years. I supported these increases due to the fact that \$5.25 per hour was not paying living wages in our state.

As a company who help hundreds of job seekers find jobs, we are noticing during this recent economic hardship, that companies cannot afford to pay the wages that they were paying 5 years ago. Companies would rather work harder with less employees than pay higher wages. Our biggest expense when running a business is the cost of salaries and benefits.

This bill would force companies to increase wages and there will be loss of jobs, because a company would rather survive than close their business. However, if it becomes necessary I know companies would rather close their business than have debt.

What is more frustrating is that this is the wrong way to go when our purpose in our state is to increase jobs and not decrease jobs.

I can almost guarantee that there will be more layoffs if SB2203 is passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Signe Godfrey

President

Olsten Staffing and Executive Search Services

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:12 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: csdp@kyd-inc.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: **Oppose**
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: **Carmelita Phillips**
Organization: KYD, Inc.
E-mail: csdp@kyd-inc.com
Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:
This bill will present a hardship to small local companies

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813



HEARING Thursday, January 26, 2012
 2:30 pm
 Conference Room 229

RE **SB2203, Relating to Labor**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Yamashita, 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 one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

RMH strongly opposes SB2203, which increases the minimum wage to \$7.75 for 2012 and \$8.25 from 07/01/2013.

When the economy faltered, retailers took significant measures to maintain employment levels by containing employment costs through across-the-board wage and salary reductions, while keeping benefits intact.

Three years later, the retail industry is growing, with existing companies opening new locations and new retailers entering the marketplace. Hundreds of new retail jobs are being created, with compensation levels based on the current economic conditions and employment regulations. Increasing the minimum wage is counterproductive to this growth.

An increase in the minimum wage causes a compression of wages between newly hired, inexperienced workers and veteran, experienced employees. An attempt to mandate scheduled adjustments at the lowest tier of the employment scale would cause a tremendous and prohibitive increase in overall employment costs. Furthermore, an increase in payroll costs would also lead to increases in benefit costs that are based on wages, including vacation and holiday pay, unemployment insurance, social security and Medicare, and workers' compensation premiums.

Businesses are preparing for the expected increases in Unemployment Insurance. Marketing, advertising and travel budgets remain at reduced levels, while basic operating expenses, particularly shipping and fuel costs, have significantly increased.

Our economy remains tenuous. Our focus should be on stabilizing our businesses so as to enable increasing employment and hastening economic recovery.

The members of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii respectfully request that you hold SB2203. Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

Carol Pregill, President

RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
1240 Ala Moana Boulevard, Suite 215
Honolulu, HI 96814
ph: 808-592-4200 / fax: 808-592-4202

hee6 - Dinna

From: bruceyokochi.tamuras@hawaiiantel.net
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 4:01 PM
To: JDLEstimony
Subject: SB 2203 Relating to Labor...Increase Minimum Wages

Senator Clayton Hee, Chairperson Judiciary & Labor:

On behalf of Tamura Enterprises, Inc., with THREE Grocery stores located in the rural areas of Oahu in the neighborhoods of, Wahiawa, Kalaeloa & Hau'ula, we respectfully urge you to NOT pass this bill. In our industry, our labor expense is probably the highest, single most controllable expense that we have. Should labor costs rise, this would impact our prices negatively, causing an increase to our current prices.

To minimize this impact of rising prices (due to our "weak" economy & extremely competitive situation), we would try to hold labor costs the SAME, by implementing a combination of, REDUCING the number of workers that we currently have & by REDUCING the number of hours worked, so that the total labor dollars, would still come out the same, so that we would not have to raise our prices & be a true, Everyday Low Price store to compete effectively!

Thank you for your time & consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce Yokochi

Director of Sales

Tamura Enterprises, Inc.

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HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

1050 Bishop St. Box 235
Honolulu, HI 96813
Fax : 808-791-0702
Telephone : 808-533-1292

DATE: Thursday, January 26, 2012

TIME: 2:30 P.M.

PLACE: Conference Room 229

TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

FROM: Hawaii Food Industry Association

RE: SB 2203 RELATING TO LABOR

The Hawaii Food Industry Association **opposes SB 2203** for the following reasons.

Businesses that make up the food and beverage industry in Hawaii are working hard to rebound from our current economic hardships. Adding an increase to the minimum wage does not assist employers in the recovery effort. Higher costs force employers to fire employees in order to remain budget neutral. In the best-case scenario this bill will limit the creation of job opportunities. In the most likely scenario, this bill will increase unemployment, putting an even greater burden on our unemployment fund, Medicaid, and State Assistance.

Since the economic downturn, retailers have taken significant measures to maintain employment levels by containing employment costs through across-the-board wage and salary reductions, while keeping benefits intact. Increasing the minimum wage is counterproductive to these efforts.

Businesses are preparing for the inevitable increases in Unemployment Insurance; marketing, advertising and travel budgets have been cut; basic operating expenses have increased. There are absolutely no resources to implement a wage increase.

Our economy is fragile at best. Our focus should be on stabilizing our businesses so as to enable increasing employment and hastening recovery.

The members of the Hawaii Food Industry Association respectfully request that you hold this bill.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 6:00 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: laurenzirbel@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM
Attachments: minimum wage HFIA testimony.doc

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Lauren Zirbel
Organization: Hawaii Food Industry Association
E-mail: laurenzirbel@gmail.com
Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 11:00 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: KHOPDEB@HAWAIIANTEL.NET
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: **Oppose**
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: **DEBRA CHING MAIAVA**
Organization: KEN'S HOUSE OF PANCAKES-HFIA
E-mail: KHOPDEB@HAWAIIANTEL.NET
Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

REGARDING THE MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE...IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A DEATH BLOW TO SMALL BUSINESS, THIS WILL BE IT. IN THIS ECONOMY, RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE ON THE BUSINESSES THAT MAKE UP THE CORE OF OUR WORKING PUBLIC WILL PUT US OVER THE TOP AND SEND US DOWNHILL VERY, VERY FAST!

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 10:39 AM
To: JDLEstimony
Cc: keolabear@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Keola Akana
Organization: Individual
E-mail: keolabear@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

Please support the increase of a living wage for Hawai'i's workers. The cost to live in Hawai'i has continued to increase every year presenting many challenges to working individuals and families, yet wages have not kept up with these increasing costs. Thank you.

hee6 - Dinna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 12:57 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: lee@cartoonistforchrist.org
Subject: Testimony for SB2203 on 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM

Testimony for JDL 1/26/2012 2:30:00 PM SB2203

Conference room: 229
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lee McIntosh
Organization: Individual
E-mail: lee@cartoonistforchrist.org
Submitted on: 1/24/2012

Comments:

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor and Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:
Aloha, I live in Kau on the Big Island. I am not in favor of SB 2203, which increases minimum wage. Now is not the time to increase costs for businesses during these tough economic times. Businesses are struggling to just keep the employees that they currently have. This bill will force businesses to layoff the very people that this bill is trying to help. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 2203.