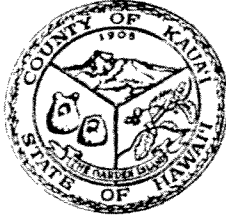


SB2967

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Gary K. Heu
Managing Director

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

4444 Rice Street, Suite 235, Lihu'e, Hawai'i 96766
TEL (808) 241-4900 FAX (808) 241-6877

Testimony of Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho Jr.

Before a Hearing of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Thursday, February 9, 2012
9:30 am
Conference Room 016

Senate Bill 2967 Relating to Collective Bargaining

Honorable Chair Hee and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

I am writing to you in support of Senate Bill 2967 which creates a separate collective bargaining category, Unit 14, for ocean safety officers.

At the present time, these employees fall under Unit 3, nonsupervisory employees in white collar positions. It makes good sense to separate these employees from Unit 3 since their duties and responsibilities are very different from those of the other employees in Unit 3. Our records indicated that in 2011, there were a total of 378 rescues performed by these ocean safety officers on Kauai. As ocean safety officers, they often put themselves at risk when rescuing people at sea and therefore should be categorized separately as is done with police officers and firefighters.

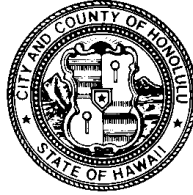
Your favorable consideration and support of SB2967 would be appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
OCEAN SAFETY AND LIFEGUARD SERVICES DIVISION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

3823 LEAHI AVENUE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96815-4435
Phone: (808) 922-3888 • Fax: (808) 922-0411

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



JAMES H.E. IRELAND, M.D.
ACTING DIRECTOR

RALPH S. GOTO
OCEAN SAFETY ADMINISTRATOR

February 9, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair and Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hawai'i State Senate
The Twenty-Sixty Legislature
Regular Session 2012
State Capitol
Honolulu Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Re: SB 2967, Relating to Collective Bargaining

This testimony is submitted in support of SB 2967.

As the Operations Chief of the Ocean Safety Division for the past 18 years it has been my privilege to work with some of the best ocean safety professionals in the world today. The accomplishments of this relatively small group of 250 employees are truly amazing.

As a group we are tasked with the responsibility of acting as the primary responder to all emergencies that occur on the beaches and in the near shore waters of the Island of Oahu. The task is significant and the consequences of failure are critical.

During my career in ocean safety there have been dramatic changes in the amount and ways that people recreate in the ocean. This has led to an unending series of challenges for those of us tasked with safeguarding those who use the beaches and waters. Our organization has experienced an ever evolving level of responsibility and has successfully met each and every one of these challenges thru a constant commitment to developing the people and systems essential to carrying out our mission.

Over the past 30 years our State has changed. Our visitor industry, resident population, and the ocean recreation industry has grown and changed as well. What has not changed is our love of the ocean and our willingness to share our beaches and waters with the many millions who visit our State each year.

During this period it became evident that our State needs professional ocean safety programs and that these programs are not a part time or recreational endeavor. Ocean Safety is an important aspect of our overall public safety responsibilities to ensure the health and safety of our community.

SB 2967 has been introduced to address a situation which has developed over the past forty years in our State. A situation where a group of employees are considered and expected to perform as public safety workers except when it comes to negotiating the terms and conditions of their employment.

Under the current law Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers are a 400 member sub-set (identified as health, safety, public trust employees) in a 23,000 member white collar bargaining unit. HGEA Unit 03 is primarily composed of general employees who perform clerical and secretarial job functions in an office environment. The work environment, responsibilities, inherent physical hazards, and nearly every element of a work day could not be more different between Water Safety/Ocean Safety officers and the vast majority of the rest of the workers in the bargaining unit. As a consequence the concerns that pertain to this small sub-set of the bargaining unit are not addressed in any substantive fashion in the development and negotiation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

SB 2967 is the remedy to the concerns of our Water and Ocean Safety Officers in the State of Hawaii and is anticipated to give them a voice in the Collective Bargaining process that will address the unique issues that these employees face in their work life.

Thank you in advance for you time and favorable consideration.

Respectfully your,

Jim Howe
Operations Chief
Emergency Services Department
Ocean Safety Division
City and County of Honolulu
723-7867

JDH/tbm

Attachments: 1

	Specialized Training and Certification In Life Safety	HLRB Essential job function designation	Dispatched via 911 to life safety emergencies	Mandatory Activation as Emergency Responders in Major Disasters	ERS Public Safety Retirement Designation	Mandatory Random Drug and Alcohol Testing	Public Safety Bargaining Unit HRS 89
POLICE OFFICER	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
FIREFIGHTER	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
EMT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
OCEAN / WATER SAFETY OFFICER	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
WHITE COLLAR NON-SUPERVISORY SUPERVISORY	No	Some	No	Some	No	No	No

Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor



Robert F. Westerman
Fire Chief

Gary K. Heu
Managing Director

John T. Blalock
Deputy Fire Chief

KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

3083 Akahi Street, Suite 101, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
TEL (808) 241-4980 FAX (808) 241-6508

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The State Senate
State Capitol, Room 407
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee:

Subject: S.B. NO. 2967 Relating to Collective Bargaining

I am Robert F. Westerman, Fire Chief of the Kaua'i Fire Department (KFD). The KFD strongly supports S.B. No. 2967 which creates a new bargaining unit (14) for ocean safety officers employed by the State and Counties.

Kaua'i has some of the most beautiful beaches in the world and also some of the most dangerous beaches in the world. Our Ocean Safety Bureau officers are professional life safety personnel who have recorded 320 rescues in 2009, 328 rescues in 2010 and 378 rescues in 2011 along with 80,797 preventive actions in 2009, 78,569 preventive actions in 2010 and 55,060 preventive actions in 2011.

Ocean safety personnel are lost in the very large Collective Bargaining Unit 3. A separate bargaining Unit will at least allow them to present their case for getting compensated in a manner which reflects the huge increase in the duties that have been imposed upon them and that they have so willingly and expertly accepted since being assigned to Unit 3 in the 1970's. They are in a class that does not recognize the dangers in their daily work and therefore cannot get their rate compensated as public safety officers.

The KFD urges your committees' passage of S.B. No. 2967 creating a new bargaining unit (14) for ocean safety officers.

Please call me at (808) 241-4975 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

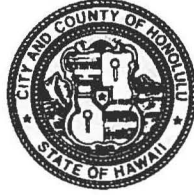
Sincerely,

Robert Westerman
Fire Chief, County of Kaua'i

HONOLULU EMERGENCY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
OCEAN SAFETY AND LIFEGUARD SERVICES DIVISION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

3823 LEAHI AVENUE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96815-4435
Phone: (808) 723-7862 • Fax: (808) 922-0411

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



JAMES H.E. IRELAND, M.D.
ACTING DIRECTOR

RALPH S. GOTO
OCEAN SAFETY ADMINISTRATOR

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair,
The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair,
and Members
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
Honolulu HI 96813

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members:

RE: SB 2967 RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The City & County of Honolulu strongly supports SB 2967 which would create a separate bargaining unit (Bargaining Unit 14) for Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in the State of Hawaii. The City's Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Division employs 152 full time Water Safety Officers and 72 part-time, contract hire personnel who provide year round lifeguard services for the island of Oahu

These ocean safety professionals are highly trained and extremely competent emergency first responders who watch over 15 million beach patrons annually, perform over 1,000 rescues of persons in distress, treat hundreds of serious medical cases, and, most importantly, prevent thousands of potential incidents from occurring by intervening and educating visitors and residents about the potential hazards of our unique aquatic environment.

We consider our Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Division to be an integral component of the City & County of Honolulu's public safety team, along with the Honolulu Police Department, the Honolulu Fire Department, and the Emergency Medical Services Division. All personnel in the Ocean Safety Division are certified in Emergency Medical Response, CPR, and Open Water Lifeguarding under the auspices of the United States Lifesaving Association, and are required to re-qualify annually by passing a rigorous physical performance test.

SB 2967

Page 2

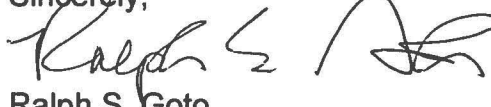
The Revised Charter of the City & County of Honolulu (2006), Section 6-603, defines the role of the Director of Emergency Services regarding ocean safety to: "(1) Be the primary responder to emergencies arising on the beach and in the near shore waters; and (2) Be responsible for ocean safety training, educational, and risk reduction programs relating to ocean safety."

For all intents and purposes, City lifeguards are considered public safety employees, as they are eligible for 25 year retirement benefits, are subject to drug and alcohol testing, and are expected to function as essential employees during emergency situations. However, lifeguards are not properly represented in their current collective bargaining unit (HGEA Unit 3) when negotiating for salaries, benefits, and working conditions.

SB 2967 would create a new bargaining unit (14) to represent the approximately 400 Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in the State. The City & County of Honolulu strongly supports this measure and urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter. I am available to answer any questions that you may have. Aloha nui loa.

Sincerely,

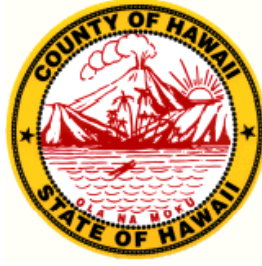
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph S. Goto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "S".

Ralph S. Goto

Administrator

Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services

BRENDA J. FORD
Council Member
District 7 - Central Kona



Phone: (808) 323-4277
Fax: (808) 329- 4786
E-Mail: bford@co.hawaii.hi.us

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
County of Hawai'i
West Hawai'i Civic Center
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

February 7, 2012

Senate Committee on the Judiciary and Labor
State Capitol
415 South Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Senate Bill 2967 to be heard in the Committee on the Judiciary and Labor

Aloha Members of the Judiciary and Labor Committee,

I support SB 2967 to change the bargaining unit for Ocean Safety Officers from Bargaining Unit 3 to new Bargaining Unit 14. Our Ocean Safety Officers are the front line of emergency rescue for the County of Hawai'i. They place their lives on the line on a daily basis to rescue people from the ocean.

Placing them in a Bargaining Unit charged with representing first responders similar to the Police and Firefighters makes much more sense. First responders have special requirements that need to be handled by separately from clerical workers.

Please vote to allow a new Bargaining Unit (14) represent our Ocean Safety Officers.

Mahalo for your attention to this matter.

Brenda J. Ford

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: jeffmorelock@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2967 on 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 5:08:10 PM
Attachments: [DOC007.pdf](#)

Testimony for JDL 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2967

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Jeff Morelock
Organization: North Shore Lifeguard Association
E-mail: jeffmorelock@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments:
4 of 4

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

It's primary benefit would be to reflect the needs and unique job characteristics of being an Ocean Safety Officer. It would be similar to the bargaining units of the police and fire personnel.

This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.

Sign & Print : Ronald C. Sullivan
Address or contact information: 78-6800 ALii Dr #9
Comments: We need Lifeguard Support NOW!

Sign & Print : Scott Reddick
Address or contact information: 4200 Gibbs Road Columbia MO 65202
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Sharon Stanbro SHARON "SAMMIE" STANBRO
Address or contact information: BOX 118 HAWAIIA 96725
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : LOREN CHING
Address or contact information: 77-154 HUIKUNA CT
Comments: Support for they DO

Sign & Print : Bob Bruce Bob Bruce
Address or contact information: 75-5787 NELE PL KAILUA-KONA HI 96748
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Richard Smoe Ruth Small
Address or contact information: 321 693 7326 411 LA COSTA ST MELBOURNE BCH FLORIDA
Comments: _____ 32951

Sign & Print : LAETITIA SMOLL
Address or contact information: laetitia.smoll@gmail.com
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Alyson Chambers
Address or contact information: Kona Marge Sands
Comments: Thanks for your help!

Sign & Print : Lisa Davis Lisa Davis
Address or contact information: owendavis@gmail.com
Comments: _____

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

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Sign & Print: Thomas W. Buskirk Thomas W. Buskirk
Address or contact information: 18734 Mtn. Plover Cir., Anchorage, AK 99516
Comments: _____

Sign & Print: Donna Stroschein Donna Stroschein
Address or contact information: 18766 473rd Ave Clear Lake, SD 57226
Comments: _____

Sign & Print: Randy Stroschein Randy Stroschein
Address or contact information: 18766 473rd Ave Clear Lake SD 57226
Comments: _____

Sign & Print: Denise Ulrich Denise Ulrich
Address or contact information: 78-6935 KILAUEA ST KAILUA KONA
Comments: _____ 96740-2210

Sign & Print: Janet Anderson Janet Anderson
Address or contact information: PO Box 280 Halvada 96725
Comments: _____

Sign & Print: John Patrick Ward JOHN PATRICK WARD
Address or contact information: 78-6715 ALII DR. KAILUA-KONA
Comments: MEMBER I AEW LOCAL 77

Sign & Print: Stake Steven AKAY
Address or contact information: 75-750 NAHI KAILUA
Comments: _____

Sign & Print: PM Tis'alona Kahlili-Wenzel
Address or contact information: 77-6491 SeaView Cr.
Comments: We need the services of our lifeguards - they are an essential part of daily life here in Kona and need to have their own union. The duties they perform everyday are on the scale of police or fire personnel.

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

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Sign & Print : [Signature] / David F. Byers
Address or contact information: 75-5771 Kuaikini Hwy #110 KK
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] / ALFRED W. LINDSEY
Address or contact information: 77-159 Laiala Ave. KK
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] / Kathleen Lindsey
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: 77-159 Laiala Ave Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

Sign & Print : [Signature] / PETER LASICH
Address or contact information: 74-4902 Kiwi STREET. KK, HI 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] / Russ Kellythorne
Address or contact information: 75-7030 Alii Dr #408 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] / Bronson Avenue
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: Kailua-Kona 96740

Sign & Print : [Signature] / Kurt Krutz
Address or contact information: 4056 Conrad, Sp Vly, Ca 91927
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] / Mailey Krutz
Address or contact information: 4056 Conrad Dr - Sp Vly Ca 91927
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] / Corey Harimoto
Address or contact information: P.O. Box 1903 KK HI 96740
Comments: _____

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

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This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.

Sign & Print : Jim Johnston
Address or contact information: Jim Johnston
Comments: Jim Johnston 32@ hotmail.com

Sign & Print : Nicole Breckner
Address or contact information: 2535 Puuhoolai St APT B Kihui, HI 96733
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Osabella Natorri
Address or contact information: 10350 Sma Ave
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Jan Dipolito Johnston
Address or contact information: Jan Dipolito
Comments: Jan Dipolito @ gmail.com
I ♥ Hawaii Lifeguards!

Sign & Print : Norma Ucamp
Address or contact information: Norma Ucamp 8
Comments: 408-221-9634
You guys do a great job!!

Sign & Print : Armando Ucamp
Address or contact information: Armando Ucamp 0
Comments: 408-218-3628
I've seen you in action. Wow!!

Sign & Print : Jaelyn Rockman
Address or contact information: 75-5689 Ali Dr Kailua-Kona HI
Comments: Life guards are a vital part of our Hawaiian
Waters. They need their own rights.


Sign & Print : Tim McCall
Address or contact information: Tim McCall
Comments: #1 Drift Drive Whitehouse YT YIA DRG.
Lifeguards are soo important.

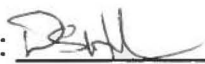
Sign & Print : Tim Carey
Address or contact information: PO Box 390405 Keauhou, HI, 96740
Comments: _____

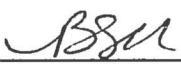
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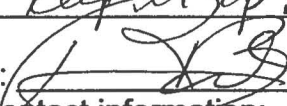
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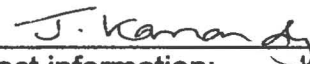
This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.


Sign & Print :  NICHOLAS AMOS
Address or contact information: 77-115 NAHALE PL, KAILUA KONA HI 96740
Comments: PROPS FOR SAVING LIVES!!

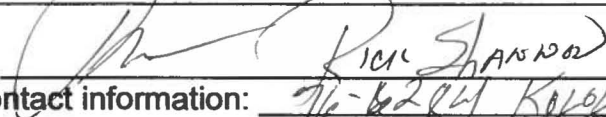
Sign & Print :  DARYL HIGGINSON
Address or contact information: 209 TONGA WAY CH.W, CA 95927
Comments: A MUST!


Sign & Print :  BRANDON KANE
Address or contact information: P.O. Box 1455, K.K, HI, 96745
Comments: Keep it up!

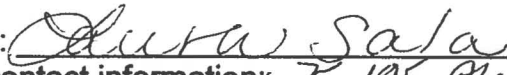
Sign & Print :  Ron Balado
Address or contact information: RONO RBKRLAW.COM
Comments: Good work

Sign & Print :  J. KOEMANDY
Address or contact information: 411 33rd Ave E, Seattle WA 98112
Comments: _____

Sign & Print :  Nancy Shannon
Address or contact information: 76-6289 Koloia St. KAILUA KONA HI 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print :  RICK SHANNON
Address or contact information: 76-6284 KALOIA ST. KAILUA KONA HI 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print :  Steve Whitney
Address or contact information: 75-195 Ala Ona Ona Street
Comments: _____

Sign & Print :  LAURA SALA
Address or contact information: 5-195 Ala Ona Ona St.
Comments: Yee-haw!

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

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This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.

Sign & Print : ELIZABETH WHITE
Address or contact information: PO BOX 41 77-175 HAWAII WAY KONA 96740
Comments: These guys should gain the recognition they deserve, their jobs are not easy & the risk their lives for strangers

Sign & Print : Maissa Navarro
Address or contact information: 6301 KESOTO AVE Wahi 91367
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : John Miller John Miller
Address or contact information: 77-256 Holomalan, 37. Kailua Kona, HI. 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Pam Miller Pam Miller
Address or contact information: 77-256 Holomalan, Kailua Kona HI. 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Dylan Blaine
Address or contact information: 1164 E. Lugonia Ave Apt #C CA 92374
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : ROLAND HOTZ
Address or contact information: 77-6535 ALI DR. #9
Comments: MAHALO TO THE HEROES & HEROINES.

Sign & Print : REBEKAH LUSSIAK
Address or contact information: 73-1542 HAWAII WAY K. HAWAII, HI.
Comments: LIFESAVERS DESERVE MORE 96740

Sign & Print : THURBERT LUSSIAK
Address or contact information: 73-1542 HAWAII WAY K. HAWAII, HI.
Comments: _____ 96740

Sign & Print : Teresa Field Teresa Field
Address or contact information: P.O. BOX 37, HOLAHOA, 96725
Comments: protect people at the shores & ocean

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

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This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.

Sign & Print : Teri Wise Teri Wise
Address or contact information: Palaia, HI 96741
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: [Signature]
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Mike Field Mel Field
Address or contact information: P.O. Box 37, Holualoa 96725
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Maria Saucedo Maria Saucedo
Address or contact information: P.O. Box 37, Holualoa 96725
Comments: Thank you for our Lifeguards, We need them at all of our beaches, Thank you.

Sign & Print : Murli Fedorowski Murli Fedorowski
Address or contact information: PO Box 65 96704 murlicdevi@yahoo.com
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] PAUL CORNELL
Address or contact information: Box 390969 K-PAUL
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] Hawk Rozewicz
Address or contact information: Po Box 4967 KONA HI 96745
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] Teresa Baxter
Address or contact information: 76-6206 Pakalana Rd, Kona HI 96740
Comments: Lifeguards risk their lives so they deserve better income

Sign & Print : Harry Baxter Harry Baxter
Address or contact information: 76-6206 Pakalana Road, Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Comments: Lifeguards put their lives on the line and should be compensated accordingly.

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

It's primary benefit would be to reflect the needs and unique job characteristics of being an Ocean Safety Officer. It would be similar to the bargaining units of the police and fire personnel.

This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.

Sign & Print : Layell FAYE Hooper
Address or contact information: 6 Enderfield Court, W.K., BR75JY
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : JHarz JASON HARVEY
Address or contact information: 6 ENDERFIELD COURT, W.K., BR75JY
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Pat Doorn
Address or contact information: 1112 Ridgewood Rd Enderby BC
Comments: Essential Service!! CANADA VOTE IVO .
Safety at all times for all! 250-838-9250

Sign & Print : Donna Doorn
Address or contact information: 1112 Ridgewood Rd Enderby B.C Canada
Comments: Respect for an essential service VOTE-IVO

Sign & Print : Janice den Selinger
Address or contact information: Leilani St. Kailua, Kona.
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Anita Selinger
Address or contact information: Leilani St Kailua, Kona.
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : MARK STAIN
Address or contact information: 10309 KESWICK AVE ALA, 90064
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Anne Sindeta
Address or contact information: 10309 KESWICK AVE 90064
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Kathryn Thorne
Address or contact information: Po Box 1812 North Conway NH, 03860
Comments: _____

We, the undersigned, support the State of Hawaii Ocean Safety Lifeguards in their pursuit of forming a new bargaining unit in the HGEA union. It would require a bill to be presented to the State Legislature.

It's primary benefit would be to reflect the needs and unique job characteristics of being an Ocean Safety Officer. It would be similar to the bargaining units of the police and fire personnel.

This bill will add a tremendous dynamic to their operations. It's ultimate goal is to provide better protection to both local residents and visitors on Hawaii's shorelines.

Sign & Print : Richard L. Everett Richard L. Everett
Address or contact information: 77-6491 Makua Rd Kaula Kona HI 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Cindy Armer Cindy Armer
Address or contact information: 75-5888 Alii Dr C-12, K-K
Comments: Thanks for all you do.

Sign & Print : Jeff Nakamura Jeff NAKAMURA
Address or contact information: 78-6958 KAUI ST Kona
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Bill Armer Bill Armer
Address or contact information: 75-5888 ALII DR C-12 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Terry Trinidad Terry TRINIDAD
Address or contact information: 9370531
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Cari McDonald Cari McDonald
Address or contact information: Sea Village condo owner
Comments: without the lifeguards, wouldn't rent the great service.

Sign & Print : David S. Case David S. Case
Address or contact information: casecarvids@gmail.com
Comments: seems like lifeguards should have their own unit

Sign & Print : D. C. Clark D. C. Clark
Address or contact information: 3283 W 32th Ave. H.
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Jon Armer Jon Armer
Address or contact information: 108 sunnide CT L70155, Co 90540
Comments: _____

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Sign & Print : GARY ABRASS [Signature]
Address or contact information: 78-6800 Alii Dr #189
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Elaine Abrass Elie K Abrass
Address or contact information: 78-6800 Alii Dr #189 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Jacqueline Frame JACQUELINE FRAME
Address or contact information: 78-7070 Alii Dr C103
Comments: KAILUA KONA HI 96740

Sign & Print : [Signature] EDGAR FRAME
Address or contact information: 78-7070 Alii Dr C103
Comments: KAILUA KONA HI 96740

Sign & Print : [Signature] TERRANCE J. CISCO
Address or contact information: 75-358 HOENR ST.
Comments: KAILUA KONA HI 96740

Sign & Print : Christina Clothner Christina Clothner
Address or contact information: 75-358 Hoene St Kailua-kona, HI 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : [Signature] SHAUN ROTH
Address or contact information: PO BOX 624 HOLEALOA HI
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Robert F. Manning ROBERT F. MANNING
Address or contact information: PO Box 4417 IKA 96745
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Kerri Tobin KERRI TOBIN
Address or contact information: 78-7110 KALUNIA 3C
Comments: _____

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Sign & Print : Nicole Gordon Nicole Gordon
Address or contact information: PO Box 3115 K-K 96745
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Civili Punkski King
Address or contact information: 734310 Mualaka 9746
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Maxwell Adams
Address or contact information: 16661 Royal Poina
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Debbie Shaw
Address or contact information: 68-1688 Kikaha Waikoloa
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Dartene Jordan
Address or contact information: PO Box 385214 Waikoloa 96788
Comments: Lifeguards risk their lives during their rescue! They all deserve it!!

Sign & Print : Sabela Sangan
Address or contact information: P.O. Box 190629 Hani 96719
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Shannon Berdon Shannon Berdon
Address or contact information: PO Box 2159 Kamuela HI 96743
Comments: _____

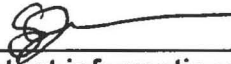
Sign & Print : Deidre Mitsuka
Address or contact information: P.O. Box 1440 Kamuela HI 96743
Comments: _____

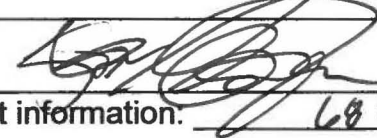
Sign & Print : Milton Mitsuka Milton Mitsuka
Address or contact information: Box 1440 Kamuela HI 96743
Comments: _____

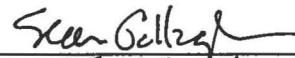
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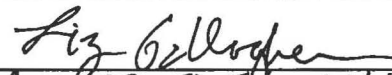
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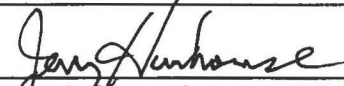
Sign & Print :  Stacy Jensen
Address or contact information: 68-3608 Haena St.
Comments:


Sign & Print :  Sean Jensen
Address or contact information: 68 3608 HAENA ST
Comments:

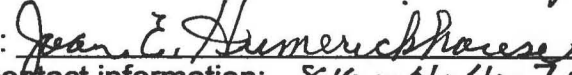
Sign & Print : SEAN GAWAGHER 
Address or contact information: PO Box 38. 5654 WAIKOLOA ST.
Comments:

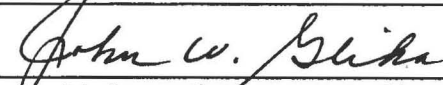
Sign & Print : LIZ GALLACHER 
Address or contact information: PO Box 38. 5654 WAIKOLOA ST.
Comments:

Sign & Print :  P. K. Kall
Address or contact information: 327-1529
Comments:

Sign & Print :  Jerry HUMERICHHOUSE
Address or contact information: 810-404-7599 156 Alie Villa Kona
Comments:

Sign & Print :  Ken Sasaki
Address or contact information: 73-4326 Male Pl
Comments: Give 'em what they like

Sign & Print :  JOANE HUMERICHHOUSE
Address or contact information: 810-404-7550 #106 Alie Villa, Kona
Comments:

Sign & Print :  JOHN W. GLIDA
Address or contact information: 1065 CONKLIN RD. CONKLIN, NY 13748
Comments: (813) 507-4485
GLIdog @ aol. com

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Sign & Print : Carl Nick Carl Nick
Address or contact information: 75 BIL WOME ST
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : Dante J DeRosario Dante J DeRosario
Address or contact information: 4496740
Comments: Lifeguards need there own Union

Sign & Print : Ben Fisher Ben Fisher
Address or contact information: WSO II Hapuna
Address or contact information: PO Box 974 Kapaau, HI 96755
Comments: Hopefully we can get sunscreen out of the deal

Sign & Print : PETER TUCKER Peter Tucker
Address or contact information: WSO UNIT 303 HAWAII-KONA, HI.
Comments: THE LIFEGUARDS ARE THE BEST IN HI.

Sign & Print : Walter Walter
Address or contact information: Walter Smith 96720
Address or contact information: 76-211 Royal P.
Comments: Hopefully we get more waves here.

Sign & Print : Andrew R. Platte Andrew R. Platte
Address or contact information: 76-713 KEALOHA ST. KIKI 96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: _____

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Sign & Print : *D. Wing Takakuwa* D. WING TAKAKUWA
Address or contact information: 73-4529 Kohanaka Rd, KK, HI 96740
Comments: *Mui Keia*

Sign & Print : *Satomi Ebisawa* SATOMI EBISAWA
Address or contact information: 75-652 Mea Lanakela K.K. HI-96740
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____
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Sign & Print : Linda A. Guha LINDA A. GUHA
Address or contact information: 1065 CONKLIN ROAD, CONKLIN, NY 13748

Comments: The life guards are one of the main reasons I feel safe at some of the beaches (813)5074485

Sign & Print : _____
Address or contact information: _____
Comments: _____

glidog@aol.com

Sign & Print : _____

Address or contact information: _____

Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____

Address or contact information: _____

Comments: _____

Sign & Print : _____

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Address or contact information: _____

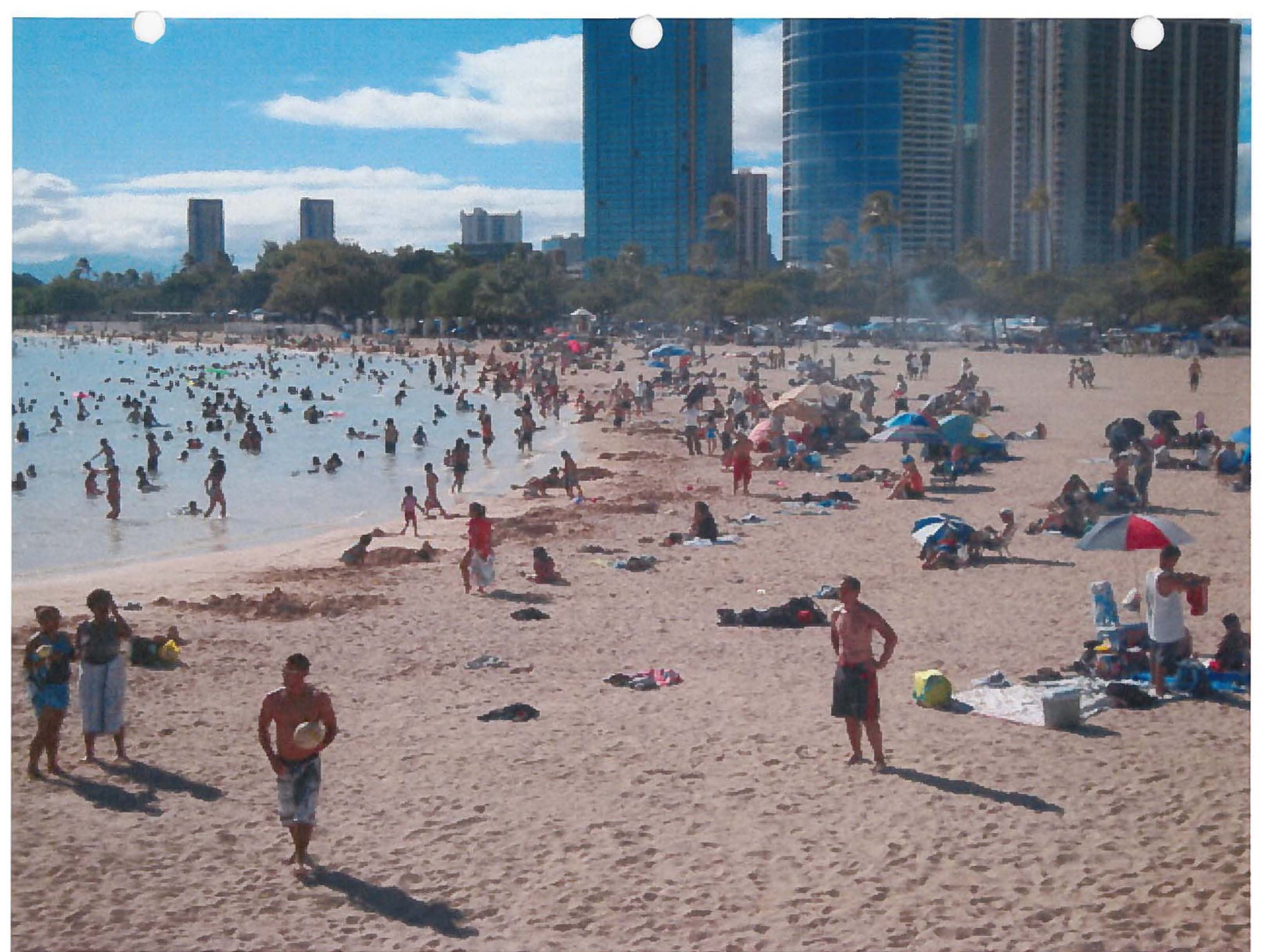
Comments: _____

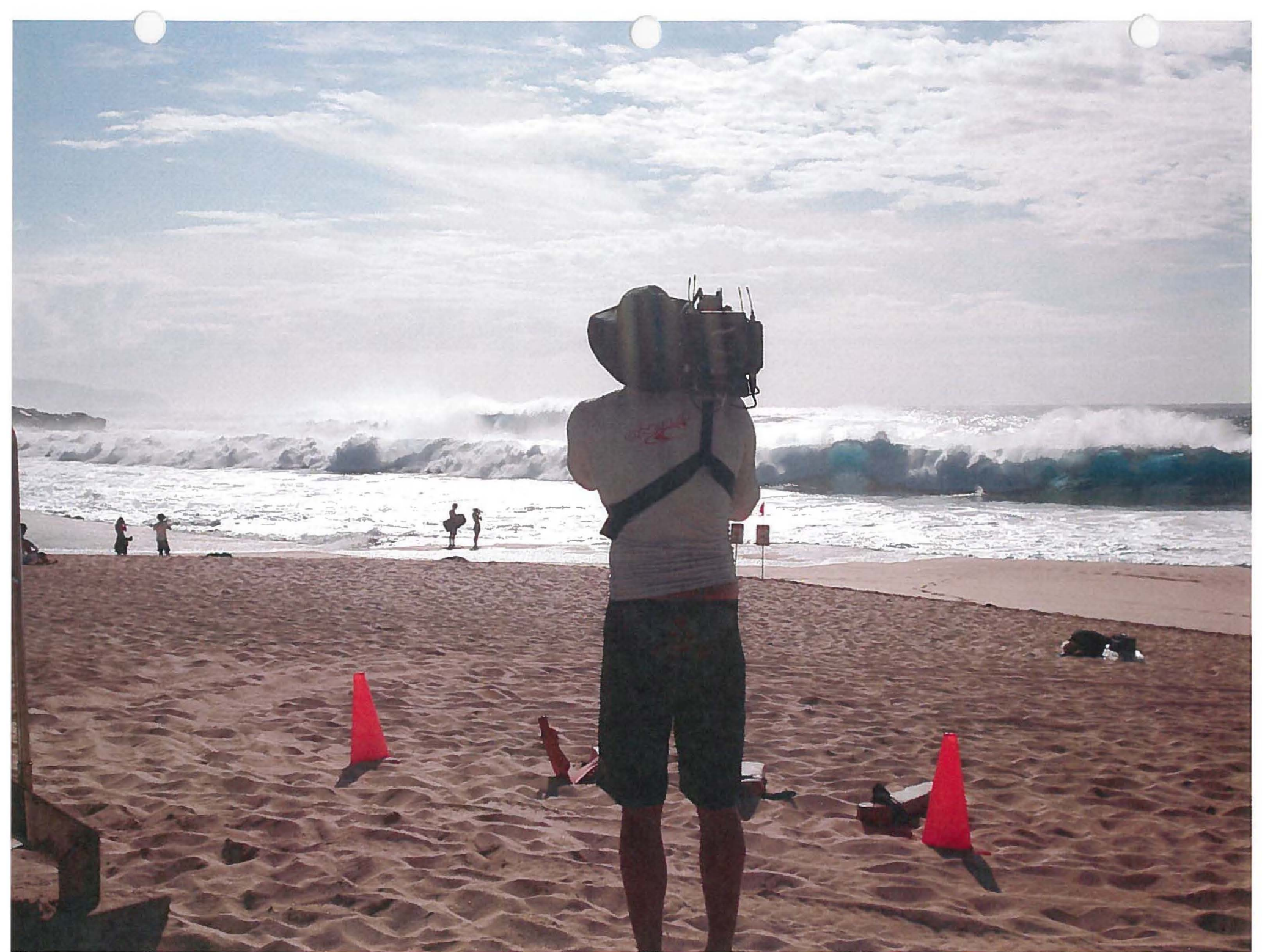
Sign & Print : _____

Address or contact information: _____

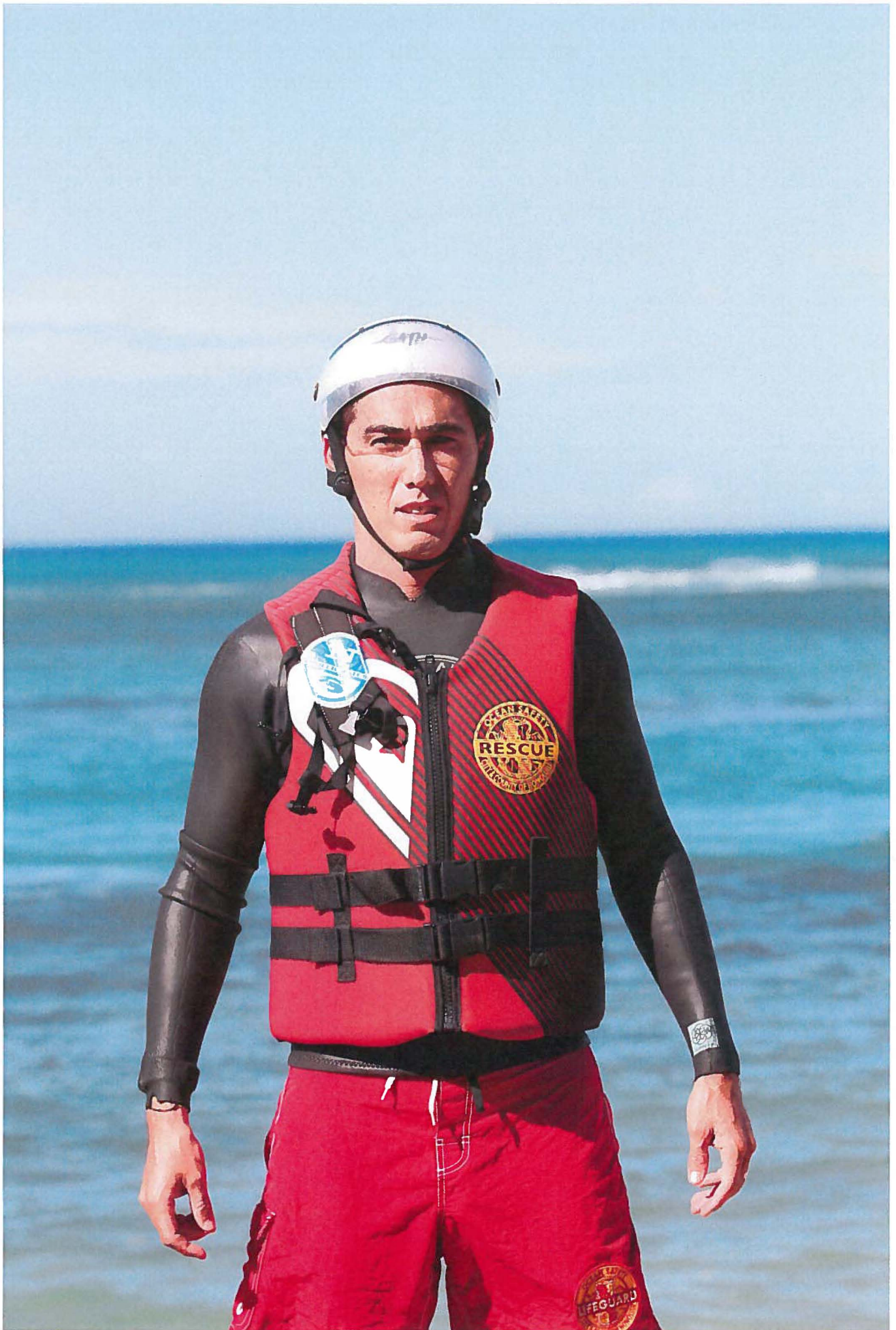
Comments: _____

















From: Kalani Vierra (Water Safety Officer)
P.O. Box 266
Kōloa, HI 96756

To: Committee On Judiciary and Labor
Chairman: Clayton Hee - Vice Chair: Maile Shimabokuru

Testimony In Support Of SB 2967

February 9, 2012

Dear Senator Clayton Hee,

I strongly support SB 2967, which will create a new Bargaining Unit (14) For Ocean Safety Officers, and Water Safety Officers employed by the State or Counties.

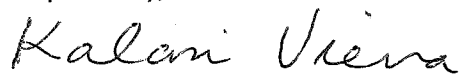
Currently the water safety officers are in HGEA unit #3, along with approximately 15,000 white collar non supervisors. Water safety officers make up about 2% of the HGEA unit #3, which mostly consists of clerical staff.

The water safety officers (beach lifeguards) are required to pass an annual agility test to keep their positions. They must pass a variety of swims, paddle board, and beach runs, under a certain amount of time. They are also subject to a random alcohol/drug screening test. Exposed to hazardous conditions, and to the harsh weather environments.

The lifeguard service is much more professional now than before. There are a higher level of training, and advanced technology in rescue equipment. Hundreds of people are being warned of any potential hazards or even being rescued around the State every day. The lifeguards put their lives on the line to save others, making our beautiful State of Hawai'i a safer destination for our visitors and local residents as well. We feel that they are essential public safety officials just like Fire Fighters and Police Officers.

Please consider passing SB 2967, so the water safety officers have their own bargaining unit. They deserve fair negotiations for hazardous wages and using specialized equipment. Help make a New Bargaining Unit a reality and put these public safety officials where they belong, similar to Police Officers and Fire Fighters.

Respectfully,



Kalani Vierra

Monty Downs, M.D.
160 Lani Alii Place
Kapa'a, HI 96746
wmdowns2000@yahoo.com

2/7/12

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

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2967

Dear Senators Hee and Shimabukuro, and JDL Committee Members:

I am testifying both as an individual (a Wilcox Hospital ER doctor since 1972) and also as President of the Kauai Lifeguard Association.

What I have witnessed in my ER career has led me to become a #1 fan of our Lifeguards (a.k.a. Water Safety Officers, or WSO's). We all know that Hawaii's beaches are our first and foremost tourist attraction, and when people step off the airplane that's where they want to go. Our beaches and ocean are also fraught with dangers, both seen (e.g. in great spectacle during our famous surfing tournaments), and unseen (e.g. when a rip current gets a hold of an unsuspecting swimmer and takes him/her out over their head and into critical danger).

I have seen all too many ocean-related tragedies, suffered both by our visitors on whom our economy depends, and also by our local families. And therefore there is nothing in the world that makes me happier than when I see our WSO's save a person - and thereby a family -- either by a prevention conversation, or by a simple rescue such as reaching out a hand or a rescue tube, or by a complex and life-threatening-to-all rescue, where they bravely and skillfully head out into highly dangerous conditions to make yet another of our world-class spectacular rescues. Happily for every drowning tragedy, there are dozens and hundreds of rescues, and hundreds and thousands of preventions.

Back in the 1970's, WSO's were arbitrarily - for lack, as I understand it, of a better place to assign them - put into HGEA Bargaining Unit 3, a Unit consisting of 15,000+ "white collar non-supervisors." Since the 1970's, the WSO's job complexity and expectation has grown such that the job is pretty much unrecognizable from those early days. Back then, a WSO brought his lunchbox and sat in a tower at a County Beach Park and guarded the beach in front of him. Now -- with Jetski's with their rescue sleds, with ATV's, with being an integral part of the 911 system -- WSO's are expected to respond to incidents that may take place miles away from their Tower. In fact just yesterday (2/6) our Hanalei Jetski WSO's rescued 6 (six!) people who

had been pulled out by a rip current at Anini Beach, several miles from their base Tower.

Our WSO's have accepted this expansion with great skill and Aloha . They are international legends. But, they have not received a salary increase commensurate with this increase in their job description and job demand. For example, on Kauai, their salary at year 5 is less than a McDonald's worker at Year 5.

Trying to negotiate a salary increase while being in Unit 3 – a group of 350 WSO's in the midst of a Unit of around 15,000 members – has proven to be pretty much impossible, unless our economy is in a position which allows a raise for all 15,000. And this is the reason for my strong support of SB 2967. By being in their own Bargaining Unit, at least the WSO's will have a chance to have their issues and circumstances heard and addressed. We all, WSO's included, are well aware that being heard will not, in this economy, guarantee an immediate fix, i.e. a salary increase. The nuts and bolts of improved (and appropriate!) compensation will be worked out over years to come. But at least the avenue will exist.

Giving our WSO's a voice: That to me is a huge step forward in allowing our people -- including our leaders such as yourselves -- to say "Thank You, men and women of Ocean Safety. You have done a remarkable job not only of watching over us and our families, but also of being our ambassadors. We in turn will work hard to support you."

And, I thank you, Officers and Members of our JDL Committee, for hearing my testimony and for considering SB 2967. I respectfully urge you to move the bill forward from your Committees and to continue to shepherd it through future Committees.

Sincerely Yours,

Monty Downs, M.D.



HAWAIIAN LIFEGUARD ASSOCIATION

February 7, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
The Senate
The Twenty Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2012

Dear Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members:

Re: SB 2967 Relating to Collective Bargaining

The Hawaiian Lifeguard Association (HLA) is the non-profit organization that represents the 400 professional ocean lifeguards in the State of Hawaii. The mission of the HLA is to promote the advancement of professional lifeguarding and to reduce drownings in the ocean surrounding our island state. The HLA attempts to accomplish this mission by supporting the efforts of Hawaii's lifeguards through fundraising and educational programs and by partnering with the government agencies in delivering the statewide Junior Lifeguard Program.

The HLA strongly supports SB 2967 as it creates a new bargaining unit in the State of Hawaii Collective Bargaining Agreement. Since the inception of the collective bargaining agreement, Water Safety Officers have been included in HGEA Unit 3 (white collar, non supervisory) and Unit 4 (white collar, supervisory). Although this assignment may have been appropriate twenty years ago, we submit to you that in 2012, Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in the State of Hawaii are essential public safety employees similar to fire fighters and police officers, and with all due respect, should not have to negotiate contract issues with secretaries and clerical employees in state and county government.

In addition to risking their lives to rescue surfers, swimmers, and unwary visitors in distress in the largest and most dangerous surf conditions in the world, Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in Hawaii are highly trained in all areas of emergency response, including medical cases, natural disasters, and search and rescue. They are the only group of public safety employees in the State who must successfully pass an annual physical performance test in order to work on the beach as open water lifeguards.

In conclusion, lifeguards in the State of Hawaii provide an invaluable service to the residents of and visitors to our island paradise. One of the first steps that can be taken to recognize this fact would be to create a separate collective bargaining unit that can represent the true public safety nature of their work.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on this very important matter. On behalf of the 400 ocean safety professionals in the State of Hawaii, I urge your favorable disposition of SB 2967.

Aloha nui loa.

Sincerely,



Jan Prins, PhD

President

February 8, 2012

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair,
The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair,
and Members
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Regular Session of 2012
State Capitol
Honolulu HI 96813

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

RE: SB 2967 RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

While I am currently appointed the Director of Emergency Services at the City and County of Honolulu, I write to you as an individual. Mayor Carlisle will be sending a separate letter with the City and County of Honolulu's position on this matter

The Revised Charter of the City & County of Honolulu (2006), Section 6-603, defines the role of the Director of Emergency Services regarding ocean safety to: "(1) Be the primary responder to emergencies arising on the beach and in the near shore waters; and (2) Be responsible for ocean safety training, educational, and risk reduction programs relating to ocean safety."

As an individual, I strongly support SB 2967 which would create a separate bargaining unit (Bargaining Unit 14) for Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in the State of Hawaii. The City's Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services Division employs 152 full-time Water Safety Officers and 72 part-time contract hire personnel who provide year round lifeguard services for the island of Oahu.

The men and women who are the Water Safety Officers of the Ocean Safety Division are highly trained in both ocean rescue and emergency medical care. They are important members of the City public safety and EMS team. They pride themselves in preventative actions -- getting information to beach visitors before they get into trouble. Because of this and combined with their watchful eye, drowning deaths are 10 times lower on guarded beaches as opposed to unguarded beaches. This staggering figure is a testimony to their importance on our beaches. They are trained in emergency medical care, CPR and AED use, so they are also able to initiate medical care and resuscitation before the arrival of paramedics.

I feel their unique position in our community and workforce warrants the new bargaining unit.

Please feel free to contact me at 676-4224 if you have any questions. Aloha nui loa.

Sincerely,



James H.E. Ireland, M.D.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: surff79@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2967 on 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 4:57:00 PM

Testimony for JDL 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2967

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: melvin n. puu
Organization: ocean safety
E-mail: surff79@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments:
Mr. Melvin N. Puu
City and County of Honolulu
Ocean Safety and Lifeguard services
Rescue Operator/Lead Trainer

Thursday: February 9, 2012

Senator Clayton Hee, Chairman, Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Maile Shimabokuru, Vice-Chair

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2967

Aloha Senators Hee and Shimbokuru, and Members of the JDL Committee:

My name is Mel Puu of the City and County of Honolulu Ocean Safety Division, and I thank you for this opportunity to speak with you.

I have been an Ocean Safety Officer for the City and County of Honolulu since 1982. I have been the Personal Water Craft (PWC) Rescue Training Officer for the city since the inception of the program in 1991, as well as the senior Rescue Operator for the Leeward Coast. I am here today to give you a brief look into what we do as Rescue Operators and what it takes to become a Rescue Operator.

The Ocean Safety Division is tasked with the responsibility of being the Primary Responder to all emergencies arising on all beaches and near shore waters around the island. (City and County of Honolulu Charter, 2006, Section 6-603. Powers, Duties and Functions)

Ocean Safety is one of three City agencies that deal with Emergency Response.

- Police Department – Police Officers, S.W.A.T., Police Air Response etc...
- Fire Department – Fire Engines, Fire Rescue, Hazmat etc...
- Emergency Service Department – Ambulance Services and Ocean Safety.

In many cases multiple department and divisions co-respond to the same emergencies.

The Ocean Safety Rescue Craft Units are comprised of a team of two specially trained Ocean Safety personnel that have met all the National (U.S.L.A.) and State of Hawaii Criteria for Rescue Craft Operations. We have five Mobile Rescue Units around the island. They are responsible for the entire coastline of Oahu. (about 110 miles) The City and County of Honolulu's Rescue Operators go through a stringent certification and training process. The City's Ocean Safety Rescue program has the highest standards in the world. It takes four years of beach life guarding service to be able to apply for rescue

training, two years of which you have to be a full time beach/tower guard. Then you have to pass a selection process (Attachment #1) to be eligible to enter the five week, 200 hour Rescue Training class. In which the Rescue Trainees will be trained in various Rescue Skills and Techniques, to a standard second to none! (Attachment #2) If you pass all of the requirements, then and only then will you receive a Rescue Operator Certification from the Ocean Safety Division. We respond to swimmers in distress, missing persons, tow surfers, capsized boats, and also to isolated and non-accessible areas where sometimes back up may not be readily available. The Rescue Operators often are the only ones on scene and need to be self reliant of themselves in these situations. Because the Rescue Units are required to respond quickly to any location around the island and in the most extreme types of conditions. (Storms, Hurricanes, Tsunamis, 20ft to 50 ft Surf etc.) It is for these reasons that it's crucial for the safety of the Rescue Operators, Rescue Crew, and the safety of the community at large that we train at the highest standards possible, and annually re-certify our personnel to keep up with new equipment, protocols, policies and new rescue techniques as they become available.

Difference in Policies: White Collar vs. Ocean Safety

If a Rescue Operator or a tower lifeguard does not pass any of the initial or yearly requirements for his or her duties then they can no longer operate a Rescue Craft or man a lifeguard tower for the city. We are the only group of employees in the city that has an annual pass/fail policy. If you do not pass your annual requirements you do not go to work. The reason that we have these policies is to be sure that we are physically professionally ready to do our job and that we are not jeopardizing our own personal safety.

In closing, I know that the City and County of Honolulu, and the State of Hawaii appreciates what the Ocean Safety Division has done for the people of Hawaii as well as the tourist that visit our islands but, it is obvious that we do different work from the majority of Unit 3 members who are mostly white collar workers. That is why we hope to receive your endorsement in forming this new bargaining unit, to help address specific concerns and to receive fair representation for all.

I thank you, very much!

Mel Puu
City and County of Honolulu
Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services
Rescue Training

Attachment #1:

The following is the selection process that is required of all the applicants.

Rescue Operators Selection for Training:

1. Two Years Full Time Service.
2. Current Valid Driver's License.
3. Division Rescue Craft Operator written exam with a minimum score of 80%.
4. Incident Command Certificate 100 and 700.
5. Coast Guard Auxiliary Basic Seamanship Certification.
6. 1000 x 1000 Run/Swim in 20 minutes or less.
7. 400 yard Rescue Paddle Board course in 4 minutes or less.
8. 250 lb Barbell Dead Lift and hold for 20 seconds.
9. 75 yard Rescue Craft Push with Craft on a Conveyance in the Sand in 1minute or less.
10. 200 yard Rescue Craft Swim/Kick with 1 turn, with Rescue Sled and Swim Fins in less than 3minutes and 45 seconds.
11. Rescue Unit reversing course in 3 minutes or less.
12. Operations through a buoyed course in 45 seconds or less.

*Once all selection requirements are met, the Ocean Safety personnel are eligible for Rescue Operator Training. The Rescue Trainee will go through a five week (200 hour) training course run by the

Division's Lead Rescue Trainer (Mel Puu) and must pass all course Lessons and Skills before being awarded a Certificate of Completion.
City and County of Honolulu
Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services
Rescue Training

Attachment #2:

Rescue Training Lessons and Skills:

1. Basic Maintenance and Trouble Shooting
2. Risk Assessment
3. Inter-Agency Response
4. Island Wide Orientation
5. Natural Disaster Protocols
6. Rescue Sled Rigging
7. Rescue Unit Daily Preparation
8. Rescue Unit (Vehicle and Trailer) Reversing Drills
9. Launching of Rescue Craft at a Recreational Boat Harbor
10. Launching of Rescue Craft at a Beach or Remote Site
11. Rescue Formation Riding
12. Wave Judgment
13. Crew Management
14. Entering and Exiting surf Zone
15. Quartering of Waves
16. Approaching of Waves from Behind and Climbing Over the Wave
17. Facing Off and Breaking Thru Waves
18. Jumping Over Broken Waves
19. Rescue Pick-Up Timing and Approach (50% set-up between Waves)
20. High Speed Crew Drop-Off
21. High Speed Crew Pick-Up
22. High Speed Conscious Patient Pick-Up
23. Multiple Conscious Patient Pick-Up
24. Un-Conscious Floating Patient Pick-Up
25. Un-Conscious Sub-Merged Patient Pick-Up
26. Rescue Craft Reversing Drills/Tight Quarters
27. Search and Rescue Drills
28. Holding Position in Surf
29. Towing Assist Drills/Rigging
30. No Steering Ability Drills, Straight Direction
31. No Steering Ability Drills, Left and Right Turns
32. No Steering Ability Drills, Left and Right Circles
33. No Steering Ability Drills, 180 degree Turn
34. No Steering Ability Drills, Crew High Speed Drop Off and Pick-Up
35. No Steering Ability Drills, High Speed Conscious Patient Pick-Up
36. No Steering Ability Drills, Un-Conscious Floating Patient Pick-Up
37. No Steering Ability Drills, Un-Conscious Sub-Merged Patient Pick-Up

Attachment #2:

38. No Steering Ability Drills, Beaching of Rescue Craft
39. Recovery of Rescue Craft from a Recreational Boat Harbor
40. Recovery of Rescue Craft from a Beach or Remote Site
41. Washing and Lubrication of Rescue Craft, Trailer, Equipment and Vehicle
42. Radio Communications with H.Q., Towers, Inter Operations etc...
43. Daily Documentations, Policies, Operational Protocols etc...

*Listed above are the Basic Rescue Operators Lessons, Skills and Techniques taught during the Rescue Training class. Each section is articulately rehearsed until each Rescue Trainee has proven to have adequate proficiency in every category. After completion of the Rescue Training class, then the Rescue

Trainee will receive a Rescue Operator Certification from the Ocean Safety Division.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: deandadaniel9@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB2967 on 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 2:10:12 PM

Testimony for JDL 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2967

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Daniel DeAnda
Organization: Individual
E-mail: deandadaniel9@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: slgswim@earthlink.net
Subject: Testimony for SB2967 on 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 9:02:00 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2967

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: sean gallagher
Organization: big island lifeguard assoc
E-mail: slgswim@earthlink.net
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments:

dear sirs and madams: every union member has a right to have their bargaining unit reflect their job's needs and concerns. lifeguards needs are better training and equipment to do their job to protect the users of our state's beaches. our concern will always be "safety, safety and safety". people have a right to go to the beach, enjoy themselves and return home to their loved ones in good health. our own bargaining unit will help that cause. "nothing is more powerful than and idea whose time has come"; much mahalo for your consideration.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: cary.kayama@co.maui.hi.us
Subject: Testimony for SB2967 on 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM
Date: Tuesday, February 07, 2012 8:16:15 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/9/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2967

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cary
Organization: Individual
E-mail: cary.kayama@co.maui.hi.us
Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support SB2967. The Lifeguards of Hawaii have served the tourist and the locals for many years at the beaches that we all love and enjoy. They have made such a huge impact in so many lives that we may never hear of. That is their job and they deserve the support and recognition for all the good they do.

ALOHA and GOD BLESS!

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to strongly urge your support of SB 2967.

By forming a collective bargaining exclusive to Water Safety Officers we will be able to more effectively address the needs that are unique to this “seven days a week/three sixty five days a year” profession. Some key issues include: attracting and retaining qualified new hires with a benefits package commensurate with their level of training, skill, and expertise; maintain employee safety with adequate staffing levels state-wide; ensuring equal enforcement of the collective bargaining agreement state-wide; providing appropriate health and safety assets for all employees exposed to severe environmental conditions.

I have been a water safety officer in Hawaii for twenty five years. In that time I have seen beach usage and demands on beach lifeguards increase dramatically. Whether the activity is surfing, body-boarding, stand-up paddling, kite-surfing, kayaking, outrigger canoeing, snorkeling, diving, skim boarding, fishing, tow-in surfing, or just sunbathers who take an occasional “dip” in our tempting ocean, lifeguards are the ultimate arbiter of beach safety.

In my tenure as a Water Safety Officer (WSO) I have seen our standards and qualifications increase. We are now saving lives with jet-powered watercraft, all-terrain vehicles, and automatic external defibrillators. Each of these lifesaving accessories requires more training and more care to make them effective. We have mobile responders to access all beach areas -- WSOs will respond to every mile of shoreline around our state. WSOs are trained in emergency response under federal guidelines, are drug and alcohol tested, and are tested annually for their ability to run, swim, and paddle (they must maintain stringent time standards regardless of their time in service). In addition to training as first responders many WSOs have become EMTs to enable them to cope with the medical and trauma emergencies we encounter on the beaches around the state. WSOs are now considered essential workers and Critical Incident/Key Resource personnel.

To maintain the level of service and safety to the public a Water Safety Officer will spend at least three to five years learning and honing his skills. It is no longer a job that is done casually after school or in the summer. While many enter this profession on a part-time basis, many WSOs have advanced to make this a career to retire from.

This increased level of professionalism is driven by the need to manage public safety. Death by drowning remains a leading cause of death among visitors and residents. The job of an adequately trained WSO is vital to the general health and safety of our community as a whole.

In closing, WSOs have been a part of HGEA BU #3 for more than forty years. Our profession has evolved tremendously in that time. We are seeking a BU that will focus more directly on our unique needs and challenges. In the end the beneficiary will be the citizens and visitors of our state.

Sincerely,

John Hoogsteden

66-112 Nalimu Rd.

Haleiwa, Hi. 96712

808-398-3986

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR



200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793-2155
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e-mail: mayors.office@mauicounty.gov

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Ke'ena O Ka Meia
COUNTY OF MAUI – Kalana O Maui

January 26, 2012

THE HONORABLE SHAN S. TSUTSUI
SENATE PRESIDENT
Senate District 4
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui,

RE: SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2967

DESCRIPTION: Creates a new bargaining unit (14) for ocean safety officers employed by the State or Counties.

I am writing you today in support of Senate Bill 2967. After hearing the original concerns brought forth by the Ocean Safety community within the State of Hawaii and understanding the need for adequate representation, I believe this measure should be moved forward and passed as soon as possible.

I am aware that specific groups within the medical community have decided against representation within this new bargaining unit, and know that this new legislation recognizes that concern. Also, I am supporting the companion bill HB2627 which also supports this effort.

I would like to thank you for your leadership and wisdom in choosing this measure as a priority and am confident that with your support, the Hawaii State division of Ocean Safety will be represented well by their new bargaining unit.

Please feel free to contact me on Maui should you have any questions or concerns, and thank you for taking time to hear my thoughts on this matter,

Malama Pono Ame Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Arakawa".

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor, County of Maui

AMΛ:zk/me