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The Twenty-Fifth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State Senate  
Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association  
April 11, 2012

S.C.R. 56, S.D. 1, S.D. 1 – REQUESTING  
THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASED FEES  
TO HELP SUPPORT A FULLY STAFFED  
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the purpose and intent of S.C.R. 56, S.D. 1. We agree that consideration should be given to reasonable increases in the fees charged by the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in compliance with Chapter 6E, HRS, and that increased fees be used to support a fully staffed SHPD program.

Although additional fees charged by SHPD would help to support a fully staffed program, we also firmly believe that the employees within SHPD should be civil servants under Chapter 76, HRS, rather than exempt employees. The Department of Land and Natural Resources has the authority under Chapter 6E, HRS, to convert these exempt positions to civil service, which would bring greater stability and continuity to the program. We sincerely appreciate that the Committees on Economic Development and Technology and Water, Land and Housing included this concern in Standing Committee Report No. 3030.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.C.R. 56, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

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Deputy Executive Director