
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS TO TAKE
STRONGER ACTION TO STOP WAGE THEFT IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, employees are the backbone of Hawaii's economy;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, many of Hawaii's employees earn the minimum wage
5 and must work several jobs to make a living; and

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7 WHEREAS, wage theft, which consists of pay-related
8 violations by employers, has emerged as a major economic justice
9 issue in the last decade; and

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11 WHEREAS, wage theft harms workers and their families by
12 depriving them of hard-earned wages; and

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14 WHEREAS, ethical employers are placed at an economic
15 disadvantage by unscrupulous employers who engage in the
16 practice of wage theft; and

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18 WHEREAS, wage theft slows down the economic recovery by
19 depressing consumer spending and fraudulently depriving states
20 and taxpayers of millions of dollars in lost tax revenue and
21 lost income; and

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23 WHEREAS, many states are addressing this issue by taking
24 affirmative steps to better protect employees' rights; and

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26 WHEREAS, in 2011, Hawaii agreed to work with the United
27 States Department of Labor to share information in an effort to
28 address the wage theft problem; and

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30 WHEREAS, in 2012, Progressive States Network reported that
31 Hawaii, as well as many other states, received a failing grade
32 in preventing wage theft; now, therefore,



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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
3 Session of 2013, that the Department of Labor and Industrial
4 Relations is urged to make fighting wage theft a priority; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
7 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Labor and
8 Industrial Relations.

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OFFERED BY: 

MAR 05 2013

