

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 1065, S.D. 1



February 5, 2014

MAKING EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING COST
ITEMS

This measure appropriates and authorizes funds for collective bargaining cost items for salary adjustments, other cost adjustments, and Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefit Trust costs for public employees represented by the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association belonging to Bargaining Unit 11 (firefighters) and their excluded counterparts for Fiscal Biennium 2013-15.

The Department of Budget and Finance supports making these appropriations to fund the Bargaining Unit 11 arbitration award. Please be advised that these costs have already been included in the FY 15 Executive Supplemental Budget pursuant to Section 89-10(b), HRS. Should the Legislature decide to pass Senate Bill No. 1065, appropriate adjustments to the proposed supplemental budget should be made to reflect the Legislature's decision to fund the arbitration award through this bill.



HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

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The Senate
Twenty-Seventh Legislature
Committee on Ways and Means
February 5, 2014

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 1 Making Emergency Appropriations for Collective Bargaining Costs

My name is Robert H. Lee and I am the President of the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association (HFFA), Local 1463, IAFF, AFL-CIO. The HFFA represents approximately 2,100 active-duty professional fire fighters throughout the State which includes more than 170 Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighters (ARFF).

HFFA ARFF members are under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Transportation – Airports Division and are stationed at all of the State airport facilities. They are specifically trained to respond to aircraft incidents and also serve as first responders to residents and visitors within the airport facilities.

After two-plus years of negotiation and arbitration proceedings, the Arbitration Panel issued their award on November 15, 2013. The award includes changes to a number of sections of the contract and also salary and benefit adjustments retroactive to July 1, 2013. It is a fair award and we respectfully request your Committee's favorable consideration and passage of S.B. No. 1065, S.D. 1, which effectuates the terms and conditions of the Arbitrated Award.

Thank you for your support.