

**SB1065**



## HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

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The Senate  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
January 28 2014

Testimony by  
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

S.B. No. 1065      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. The salary and benefit increases are 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, which effectuates the terms and conditions of the Arbitrated Award.

Thank you for your support.