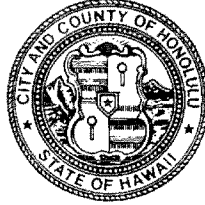


SB3098

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 10th Floor
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



CAROLEE C. KUBO
DIRECTOR
NOEL T. ONO
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

January 31, 2014

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members of the Committee
on Judiciary and Labor
The Senate
State Capitol, Room 407
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 3098
Relating to Public Collective Bargaining

The Department of Human Resources, City & County of Honolulu, **supports** the intent of S.B.3098, which seeks to restore the grievance arbitration process under a public collective bargaining agreement to a simplified system that provides a quick, just, and cost-effective resolution to conflicts between public employers and employees. Per Chapter 89, HRS., the Legislature declared many years ago that it is the public policy of the State to "promote harmonious and cooperative relations between the government and its employees and to protect the public by assuring effective and orderly operations of government." The City embraces this policy and desires to resolve all labor relations matters amicably between the parties in the most simple, efficient, and cost effective manner possible.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify on this matter.

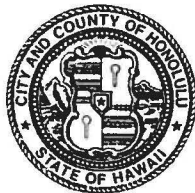
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carolee C. Kubo".

Carolee C. Kubo
Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO
MARIE A. McCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE AB-JK

January 31, 2014

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 016
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 3098, Relating to Public Collective Bargaining

I am Alan Bluemke, Major of the Human Resources Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports the intent of Senate Bill No. 3098, Relating to Public Collective Bargaining. The HPD agrees that labor arbitrations should be less time consuming and costly to both parties involved. Additionally, we agree that by addressing the influence and control of labor arbitrations by the legal industry and the total compensation allowed by a public grievance arbitrator, the grievance process would likely result in being more cost effective, less time consuming, and fairer for both the public employees and employers.


The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 3098.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,


Alan K. Bluemke, Major
Human Resources Division

APPROVED:


Louis M. Kealoha
Chief of Police

Serving and Protecting With Aloha



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Friday, January 31, 2014
10:30 a.m.

By
Dr. John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i

SB 3098 – RELATING TO PUBLIC COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, I am submitting written testimony on behalf of the University of Hawai'i (UH) regarding Senate Bill 3098 – Relating to Public Collective Bargaining which proposes to: 1) define a public grievance arbitration as an arbitration under a public collective bargaining agreement, excluding an arbitration pursuant to section 89-11(e); 2) decrease a public grievance arbitrator's authority to order additional discovery; 3) prohibit a public grievance arbitrator from awarding punitive damages, attorneys' fees and costs, or interest on any monetary award to either party; 4) limit compensation owed to a public grievance arbitrator; 5) except the application of certain sections of Chapter 658A, HRS, to the public grievance arbitration process; 6) clarify that a court order confirming an arbitration award shall not be used against either party in a subsequent proceeding relating to any other public grievance arbitration; and 7) clarify that an order establishing the jurisdiction of a public grievance arbitrator shall be immediately reviewable by the circuit court de novo.

The UH **supports** the intent of Senate Bill 3098 and agrees with the Legislature's findings that labor arbitrations can be made better and more effective only when the process can be made less formal, less technical, and less adversarial.

We also support the purpose of the bill which is to restore the grievance arbitration process under a public collective bargaining agreement to a simplified system, not subject to the Uniform Arbitration Act, that provides for a quick, just and cost-effective resolution to conflicts between the Employer and the Union. The UH believes that such legislation would benefit not only the Employer and the Union, but also our employees, since it would resolve disputes in a timely manner and reduce costs to all parties. The proposed legislation will provide a rational method for handling disputes leading towards maintaining a favorable political and social environment in accordance with the statement of findings and policy embodied within Chapter 89, HRS.

Based on the above, we respectfully request that the proposed legislation be given due consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.