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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 446
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Written Testimony

SB119

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Acting Director

Presented to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211

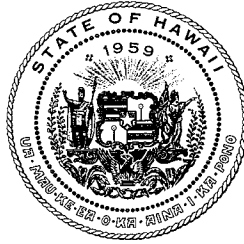
Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Good morning Chair Tokuda and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Acting Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments in support of S.B. No. 119, Making Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate funds for the public employment cost items of and cost adjustments for employees of the legislative service agencies, the Senate, and the House of Representatives.

As you know, the staff of the Legislature and the legislative service agencies are excluded from collective bargaining. The Bureau strongly supports the measure's continued progress through the legislative process so that a viable legislative vehicle will remain available should the Legislature later determine that such cost items and adjustments are warranted.

Thank you again for your consideration.



**TESTIMONY OF JAN K. YAMANE, ACTING STATE AUDITOR,
ON SENATE BILL NO. 119,
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means
March 3, 2015**

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

I am Jan Yamane, Acting State Auditor. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 119, making appropriations for public employment cost items. The purpose of this bill is to fund Hawai'i employer-union health benefits trust fund and other cost adjustments authorized by Chapter 89C, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, for legislative officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining, including staff in my office. We encourage passage of this bill unamended. I am available for questions should you have any.



Robin K. Matsunaga
Ombudsman

Mark G.S. Au
First Assistant

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STATE OF HAWAII**

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**TESTIMONY OF ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA, OMBUDSMAN,
ON S.B. NO. 119, A BILL FOR AN ACT
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

MARCH 3, 2015

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of S.B. No. 119.

The purpose of this bill is to provide the funds necessary to cover cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the legislative agencies. Your favorable consideration of this bill will allow it to continue to be available as a vehicle throughout this legislative session, should the Legislature later determine that such cost items and adjustments are warranted, and would be appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration.



HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawaii • Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

BILL NO: S.B. 119, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

TO: The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, Vice Chair
The Honorable Members
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol, Room 207
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

FROM: Hawaii State Ethics Commission

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2015

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

ROOM: Conference Room 211

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) requests the Committee’s support of S.B. 119, which is to appropriate additional funds to the legislative agencies, including the Commission, to fund Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund costs and other cost adjustments authorized by chapter 89C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for legislative officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining.

The Commission’s approved budget for FY 2015-2016 does not include any amount to fund the costs associated with Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund costs and other cost adjustments that the Legislature may deem appropriate. It is critical that the Legislature appropriate additional funds for the Commission should the employees of the Executive departments be entitled to adjustments in benefits and pay. Without the additional appropriation, the Commission may be unable to provide its employees with similar adjustments.

Thank you for considering the Commission’s testimony on S.B. 119.