

LATE TESTIMONY



HAWAII FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

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THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016
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Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by
Hawaii Fire Fighters Association

S.B. No. 2435 Relating to Collective Bargaining

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. HFFA supports S.B. No. 2435, Relating to Collective Bargaining.

S.B. No. 2435 provides for EUTF benefits and contributions to be resolved through the arbitration and negotiation process. HFFA has struggled with ensuring that medical premiums provided through the collective bargaining agreement remains affordable while being unable to participate in the design plan to meet the needs of the membership. This proposal allows both health benefits and contributions to be inclusive in the terms and condition of employment of the final agreement which allows both the employer and the exclusive representative the flexibility during negotiations and arbitrations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.