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**TESTIMONY OF ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA, OMBUDSMAN,  
ON H.B. NO. 110, H.D. 1, A BILL FOR AN ACT  
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

**MARCH 13, 2017**

Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1.

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

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Committee: Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Bill Number: H.B. 110, HD1  
Hearing Date/Time: March 13, 2017, 9:30 a.m.  
Re: Testimony of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission in **SUPPORT**  
of H.B. 110, HD1, Making Appropriations for Public Employment  
Cost Items

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee Members:

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) supports H.B. 110, HD1. This measure appropriates 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 Hawaii Revised Statutes chapter 89C for legislative officers and employees excluded from collective bargaining.

The Commission’s requested budget for FY 2017-2018 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. The Commission respectfully requests 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.

The Commission has submitted detailed budget information in its testimony in support of H.B. 1530, the appropriations bill for the legislative branch; should this Committee wish to see detailed information about the Commission’s budget and operations, that testimony is available here:  
[http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2017/Testimony/HB1530\\_TESTIMONY\\_FIN\\_02-03-17\\_.PDF](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2017/Testimony/HB1530_TESTIMONY_FIN_02-03-17_.PDF) (beginning on page 23).

Thank you for your continuing support of the Commission’s work and for considering the Commission’s testimony on H.B. 110, HD1.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck  
Executive Director and General Counsel

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
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## Written Comments

### **HB110, HD1**

### **MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

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

Presented to the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Monday, March 13, 2017, 9:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 016

Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

Good Morning Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee, my name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments in support of H.B. No. 110, H.D. 1, 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.