



**HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
The Senate  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association  
February 6, 2017

S.B. 275 and S.B. 701 – PROPOSING  
AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V, SECTION 2,  
OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO opposes the intent of both S.B. 275 and S.B. 701, which propose a constitutional amendment to require the gubernatorial nominee of each political party to appoint a person from the same political party as a running mate for lieutenant governor in the general election.

While it may be politically preferential for a party's gubernatorial nominee to freely select his or her own running mate, we firmly believe that the electorate should maintain the right to vote for a lieutenant in the primary election. The lieutenant governor serves as the second highest officer of our state, resumes the governor's responsibilities when the governor is out of state, and if the governor vacates his or her office, the lieutenant governor ascends to serve as governor. Given this high level of responsibility on behalf of our state, it is only fair to allow voters an opportunity to choose who should be second in command.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to S.B. 275 and S.B. 701. We respectfully request the Committee to defer both measures.

Respectfully submitted,

  
for Randy Perreira  
Executive Director

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**Cc:**  
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**SB701**

Submitted on: 2/3/2017

Testimony for JDL on Feb 6, 2017 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Changing key words in our constitution will not change the intent to give the political parties power to manipulate, change and/or control how our legislators are to legislate.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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