

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 8:43 PM
To: HLTtestimony
Cc: adrenalinrod@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB469 on Jan 31, 2017 08:30AM

Categories: Red Category

HB469

Submitted on: 1/28/2017

Testimony for HLT on Jan 31, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 329

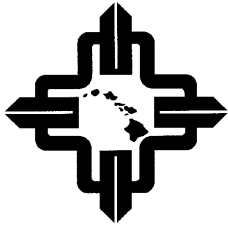
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Drena L. Rodrigues	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: My name is Drena Rodrigues, and I have worked in the kitchen at Hilo Medical Center for 13 yrs. I am opposing this bill for several reasons. First off when you privatize any entity, it is no longer owned by the public, and the public has no say in what the private entity does. When you privatize, the corporation's first concern is making money. This will have an affect on the employees and patients. Prior to working at Hilo Medical Center, I worked in the kitchen at UH Hilo where they out sourced their kitchen to Marriott, so I have first hand knowledge of working in a kitchen that was out sourced. In the four years that I worked there, I made 6,000 per year. We were allowed only 30 hrs per week to control benefits, and we worked split shifts. As you can imagine, the turn over was great. None of the people that I worked with back then are still there. Although I liked working for Marriott, I could not afford to stay there. Having a great turn over of employees is not as bad in a school environment as it would be in a hospital environment. In a hospital kitchen you have to learn different diets, measurements, and different consistencies of these diets. If your employee turn over rate is high, you will have to keep training new people, which could lead to mistakes and patient care declining. Right now we have some people who have been in our kitchen for more than 20 yrs. A hospital kitchen entails more than working in a regular kitchen, not to mention the illnesses you are exposed to. Without the incentive of retirement and medical benefits, and making more than minimum wage, the turn over in the HMC kitchen will be high. To be honest with you, there are many of us who would not stay at HMC if it were not for our retirement and medical benefits. If this bill is passed many of us will lose our jobs or have to RIF into other departments. If the workers become displaced, will you pass a bill like you did for the Maui workers, where there is an early retirement or severance package? I know that case is pending, but I believe the right thing to do is to compensate those workers who will be left out in the cold to endure a hardship through no fault of their own. I also believe if that were to happened to the HMC workers, there should also be some compensation to these displace workers. I will be 57 yrs old this year and to start all over again will be a hardship for me. On a personal note, I left that job at UH Hilo to better my future, so that my children would not have to take care of me in my old age. 13 years ago, the state made a promise to me and now they want to renig on that promise. I planned a future on that promise. This bill will affect the employees, their families and the community. I ask that you reconsider this bill and the affect that it would have on a small town like Hilo. This is a poor town and hitting blue collar workers, is not the way to balance your budget. By taking away our retirement and medical benefits, it will just make our community

more poor. HMC is our biggest employer here in Hilo, its not like Oahu where we have a lot of jobs to fall back on. This is why our children are moving to the mainland. Please give this considerable thought as your decision will have great consequences to many.

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HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N

"Quality Healthcare For All"

**House Committee on Health
Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair**

January 31, 2017
Conference Room 329
8:30 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

Testimony providing comments to House Bill 469 Relating to the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation. Authorizes the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to enter into a contract for the privatization of food services at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation facilities.

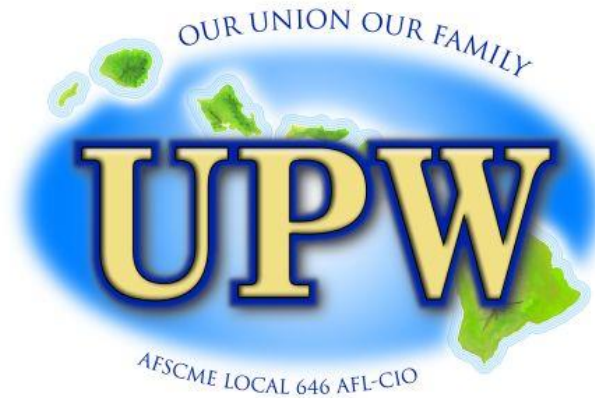
Linda Rosen, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

The HHSC Corporate Board would like to **provide comments** on this measure. As one of the largest public health care providers in the nation, HHSC maintains acute and long term care facilities operating continuously 24 hours a day across the state. A variety of food services are provided, including specialized dietary services required for specific types of patients.

At this time none of the HHSC regions responsible for facility operations is planning new contracts for dietary services. However we appreciate the Legislature's consideration of measures that provide increased flexibility in our efforts to effectively and efficiently provide high quality patient care to the communities we serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE



THE HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The Twenty-Ninth Legislature
Regular Session of 2017

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

The Honorable Representative Della Au Belatti, Chair
The Honorable Representative Bert Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE OF HEARING: Tuesday, January 31, 2017
TIME OF HEARING: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE OF HEARING: State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 469 RELATING TO THE HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
CORPORATION**

By DAYTON M. NAKANELUA,
State Director of the United Public Workers,
AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW")

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, State Director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). The UPW is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which include blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 01 and institutional, health and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents about 1,500 members of the private sector.

HB469 proposes to privatize food services at HHSC facilities. This is another attempt by the elect to destroy the civil service system in the mistaken belief that privatization is the panacea to solving government's constitutional obligation to provide for the safety and health of Hawaii's citizens.

The UPW is completely opposed to this measure.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

LATE

The Twenty-Ninth Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Health

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
January 31, 2017

H.B. 469 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII
HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO opposes H.B. 469 which authorizes the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to enter into a contract for the privatization of food services at Hawaii Health Systems Corporation facilities.

H.B. 469 provides for the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation to enter into a contract or agreement with any person, firm, association, partnership, or corporation, whether for-profit or non-profit, to provide food services at the various facilities. The intent of this bill will negatively impact current public employees who are performing the food service duties and responsibilities for patients within the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation facilities. Privatizing this service will force employees into unemployment creating great financial hardship.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition for H.B. 469.

Respectfully Submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director