



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

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

The Thirtieth Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
Committee on Ways & Means

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
March 10, 2020

H.B. 1698, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 1698, H.D. 1 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of state and county ocean safety and water safety officers (OSOs).

Bargaining unit 14 is currently composed of deputy sheriffs, conservation and resource enforcement officers, harbor enforcement officers, and state and county ocean and water safety officers who previously belonged to bargaining unit 3, white collar employees. At the time of creation, the Legislature recognized and understood that the unique needs of the LEOs and OSOs could not be addressed if they remained in the largest, and one of the most diverse units.

During the 2013 legislative session, we asserted that through a separate bargaining unit the specialized needs of LEOs and OSOs, including mandatory trainings and certifications, uniform and equipment allowances, and terms and conditions of employment, would be more directly and uniformly addressed with the Employer. Although this remains true, after the completion of two rounds of contract negotiations, it is apparent that the two groups of employees are too incongruous to be in the same unit. LEOs are armed personnel who are trained to execute law enforcement services statewide, handle detained persons, serve arrest warrants, and ensure the compliance of state law in a variety of areas, including airports, courts, harbors, and state lands. OSOs are not armed and do not provide law enforcement services, but rather are trained for ocean rescues, emergency medical first response, and injury prevention programs. Combining the specialized needs of law enforcement and ocean safety in one unit has proven to be impractical as they are two distinct occupational classes, similar to the differences between police officers, firefighters, and nurses.

We wholeheartedly believe that creating a new bargaining unit is necessary for us to best address the different needs of our government employees. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of H.B. 1698, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

for Randy Perreira
Executive Director

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 10:32:00 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Nagamine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET 10TH FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 768-8500 • FAX: (808) 768-5563 • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov/hr

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



CAROLEE C. KUBO
DIRECTOR

NOEL T. ONO
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

March 10, 2020

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
The Senate, Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Taniguchi and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Ihara and Keith-Agaran, and
Members of the Committees:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1698, HD 1
Relating to Collective Bargaining

The City and County of Honolulu supports HB 1698, HD 1 which would create a separate bargaining unit (Bargaining Unit 15) for Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers in the State of Hawaii. The Water Safety Officers of the City and County of Honolulu provide year round lifeguard services for the island of Oahu. A separate bargaining unit would be appropriate because of their unique job duties that are unlike any of the other 14 bargaining units.

In addition, the City respectfully submits the following comments on HB1698, HD 1. The bill in its current form, in Section 89-6 (a), defines BU 15 as "State and county ocean safety and water safety officers." Other public safety units, such as BU 11 and BU 12, are defined in that same section as "Firefighters" and "Police officers," respectively. To be consistent, we suggest that BU 15 simply be defined as "Ocean safety and water safety officers." Secondly, the bill in its current form, in Section 89-11 (d) (1), outlines the voting structure for BU 15 for the purposes of negotiating a collective bargaining agreement, which gives votes to the Chief Justice and the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation Board if they have employees in the BU. As all of the current Water Safety and Ocean Safety Officers are employed by the City

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair and Members of the Committee on Labor,
Culture and the Arts
The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee
on Ways and Means
March 10, 2020
Page 2

and neighbor island counties, we feel it would be appropriate to add BU 15 to Section 89-11 (d) (2). This would make the voting structure for BU 15 consistent with BU 11 and BU 12, which are also public safety units mostly or wholly comprised of employees of the City and neighbor island counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolee C. Kubo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Carolee C. Kubo
Director

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 6:50:25 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bryan Phillips	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo

Bryan Phillips

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 7:07:10 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert Beall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,
Robert

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 7:10:53 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tanner Haytin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Tanner Haytin

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 7:15:45 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan	Testifying for ocean safety	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

aloha, Dylan Gleed

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 7:17:34 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Harold Teshima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

March 9, 2020

Aloha my name is Harold Teshima and I am in IN SUPPORT OF HB1698.

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO).

The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo.

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 7:52:50 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noland Tamashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:04:05 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jaron Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Aloha

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 8:37:08 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Chelsea Bizik	Testifying for C&C Ocean Safety Officer	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Mahalo,

Chelsea Bizik

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:25:32 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
eugene teixeira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 11:20:36 AM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kale sylvia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

LATE

HB-1698-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 12:15:04 PM

Testimony for LCA on 3/10/2020 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
victor hemmy III	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

IN SUPPORT OF HB1698

BU 14 was created in 2013 which is composed of state law enforcement officers (LEOs) and Ocean Safety Officers/Lifeguards (OSO). The LEOs are armed officers who carry out law enforcement duties, serve warrants, make arrests, escort criminals and provide security for our state capital, airports and courthouses. The Hawaii Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) is tasked with full state police powers to enforce all state laws with their primary jurisdiction involving State lands, State Parks, historical sites, forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife areas, and coastal zones.

OSOs provide ocean safety lifeguarding services for about 500 miles of coastline across the whole state. OSOs services include ocean rescue prevention, ocean rescue, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile patrol, education, and injury prevention programs related to ocean safety.

I strongly support HB 1698 which amends bargaining unit 14 to be composed of state law enforcement officers and creates a new bargaining unit 15 to be composed of lifeguards. The creation of BU 15 will allow the highly trained and skilled LEOs and OSOs the ability to focus on the unique nature of their jobs through separate negotiations.

Victor Hemmy III