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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
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February 12, 2020

TESTIMONY TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

For Hearing on Thursday, February 13, 2020
9:00 a.m., Conference Room 309

BY

RYKER WADA
DIRECTOR

House Bill No. 2339
Relating to Residency Requirements in State Hiring

TO CHAIRPERSON JOHANSON, VICE CHAIR ELI AND MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE:

House Bill No. 2339 exempts dependents of military servicemembers from state residency requirement for employment with state or county government if the military servicemember is in Hawai'i on bona fide military orders.

The Department of Human Resources Development **strongly supports** this administration measure. As part of our commitment to reducing the number of vacancies in state government, we believe civilian dependents of military servicemembers may represent an untapped pool of potential applicants interested in state employment.

As the current law stands, state employees must sign a declaration within 30 days of the start of employment that they are a resident of the State of Hawaii. With the nature of military service (where servicemembers may transfer every few years), it may be in the interest of civilian dependents of military servicemembers to maintain their residency in their “home” state for a multitude of reasons. We have anecdotally heard from executive branch departments that employment offers extended to civilian dependents of military servicemembers have been turned down due to our residency requirement.

We believe permitting this limited exemption may allow the state to tap into an otherwise qualified pool of applicants to reduce to number of vacancies in state government.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



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

"Quality Healthcare For All"

House Committee on Labor & Public Employment
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Chair
Representative Stacelynn K.M. Eli, Vice Chair

February 13, 2020
Conference Room 309
9:00 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

**Strongly Supporting
House Bill 2339**
Relating to Residency Requirements in State Hiring
Exempts dependents of military servicemembers from state residency
requirement for employment with state or county government if the military
servicemember is in Hawaii on bona fide military orders.

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

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation ("HHSC") **strongly supports** HB2339.

HHSC provides vital health care services throughout the state. This measure would assist greatly in continuing to meet these communities' needs for quality patient care by enabling the hiring of qualified candidates for difficult to fill positions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.