

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

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ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

**TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2097, H.D. 1**

**February 23, 2022  
2:00 p.m.  
Room 308 and Videoconference**

**RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) supports moving this Administration proposal or a similar one. An agreement has been reached with Hawai'i Government Employees Association Bargaining Unit 9 (Registered Nurses). Notification of ratification of the agreement was received on January 18, 2022.

B&F asks that you return to the amounts in the original draft of this measure, which contained the necessary amounts to appropriate and authorize the appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for salary adjustments and other cost adjustments for Fiscal Biennium 2021-23 for that agreement.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
February 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

by

Kalbert K. Young

Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer  
University of Hawai'i System

HB 2097 HD1 – RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i **supports** HB 2097 HD1, Relating to Public Employment Cost Items. This bill provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for members of Unit (9) and their excluded counterparts for fiscal biennium 2021-2023.

Although an agreement between the employer and the employees has not yet been reached, this bill serves as a vehicle should such an agreement occur.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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

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

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
Committee on Finance

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 23, 2022

H.B. 2092, H.B. 2093, H.B. 2094, H.B. 2095, H.B. 2096,  
H.B. 2097, H.B. 2100, and H.B. 2101 – RELATING TO  
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of H.B. 2092, H.B. 2093, H.B. 2094, H.B. 2095, H.B. 2096, H.B. 2097, H.B. 2100, and H.B. 2101, each of which provides a funding vehicle to implement collective bargaining agreements for Bargaining Units 02, 03, 04, 06, 08, 09, 13, and 14 respectively, for the fiscal biennium 2021 – 2023.

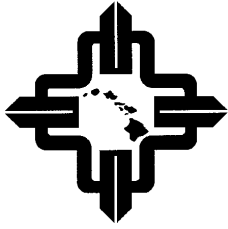
On January 15, 2022, our registered professional nurses in bargaining unit 09 ratified a successor 4-year contract, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025. We respectfully request H.B. 2097 be amended to include the appropriate funding amounts and defer to the Employer to provide the cost estimates.

Although we are in the middle of the negotiations process with the Employer, no other units have reached agreement, therefore those respective bills contain no appropriations at this time. We respectfully request the Committee pass these vehicle bills in case we are able to settle our contracts prior to adjournment.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the above referenced measures.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira  
Executive Director



## **HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS**

C O R P O R A T I O N

*Quality Healthcare For All*

**House Committee on Finance**  
**Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair**  
**Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair**

February 23, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Via videoconference

Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony Supporting House Bill 2097, HD1**

Provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of bargaining unit (9) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2021-2023. Effective 12/25/2040. (HD1)

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

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **support of H.B. 2097, HD1** that will appropriate funds for fiscal year 2022-2023 for salary costs for public employees in collective bargaining unit 9 and their excluded counterparts.

HHSC values all of its employees in the public sector unions. However, HHSC's financial condition cannot absorb collective bargaining pay increases without a corresponding general fund appropriation to pay for those raises.

Since fiscal year 2018, the cumulative impact of the collective bargaining pay raises (including fringe benefits) that is included in HHSC's expense base is approximately \$54,688,000, which the State has funded through special fund ("B" fund) appropriations. For HHSC, a special fund appropriation only allows the hospitals to spend the cash that they generate on paying these types of raises. HHSC's hospitals were already not able to generate sufficient cash to pay for all of its operating expenses. This is why HHSC constantly needs a general fund appropriation of between 15 to 20% of its operating budget just to end each fiscal year with a minimal level of cash on hand. HHSC needs a **general fund appropriation** to pay for the proposed raises; otherwise, it will need an emergency appropriation to pay for these raises in the current Legislative Session.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before this committee. We appreciate the Committee's continued focus on improving healthcare for our island communities.

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