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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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2097, H.D. 2**

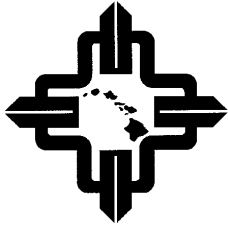
**March 14, 2022
3:00 p.m.
Room 225 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Department of Budget and Finance 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.

This bill contains 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.



HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS

C O R P O R A T I O N

Quality Healthcare For All

Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair

Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

March 14, 2022
Conference Room 225
3:00 p.m.
Via videoconference
Hawaii State Capitol

**Testimony Supporting House Bill 2097, HD2
Making Appropriations for Collective Bargaining Cost Items.
Appropriates funds for fiscal biennium 2021-2023 for salary costs for public
employees in collective bargaining unit (9) and their excluded counterparts.**

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, HD2** that will appropriate funds for fiscal biennium 2021-2023 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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UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts
March 14, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

by
Kalbert K. Young
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawai'i System

HB 2097 HD2 – RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Ihara, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawai'i **supports** HB 2097 HD2, 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.

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
The Senate
Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 14, 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 appreciate the amendments provided by the House Committee on Finance that amended H.B. 2097 to insert the appropriate funding amounts.

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