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Written Comments in Support

HB2355

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the Senate Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts

Monday, March 14, 2022, 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225
Via Teleconference

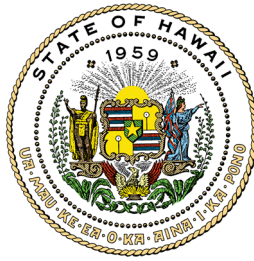
Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon, Chair Taniguchi and members of the Committee. My name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written comments in support of H.B. No. 2355, Making An Appropriation For Public Employment Cost Items.

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate moneys for public employment cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the Senate, House of Representatives, and various legislative agencies who are excluded from collective bargaining for the 2021-2023 Fiscal Biennium.

The Bureau supports this measure and appreciates the Legislature's efforts to ensure that Bureau staff are compensated equitably with their civil service counterparts.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit written comments in support of this measure.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
The Honorable Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

**Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. No. 2355,
Making Appropriations for Public Employment Cost Items.**

Hearing: Monday, March 14, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of H.B. No. 2355, which appropriates funds to certain legislative agencies, including the Office of the Auditor, to fund Hawai'i employer-union health benefits trust fund costs and other cost adjustments authorized by chapter 89C, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

We strongly support the continued progress of this bill so that the option to make cost adjustments will continue to be available, should the Legislature determine that such costs items and adjustments are warranted.

We have submitted detailed budget information in our testimony in support of H.B. 2500 H.D. 1, the appropriations bill for the legislative branch. Testimony previously submitted to the House Finance Committee on H.B. 2500 is available here:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2022/Testimony/HB2500_TESTIMONY_FIN_02-03-22_.PDF
(beginning on page 2).¹

Thank you for considering our testimony related to H.B. No. 2355.

¹ The Office of the Auditor's written testimony relating to H.B. 2500 was substantially identical to the written testimony on H.B. 2500 H.D. 1.



Robin K. Matsunaga
Ombudsman

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**TESTIMONY OF ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA, OMBUDSMAN,
ON H.B. NO. 2355, A BILL FOR AN ACT
MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, CULTURE AND THE ARTS

MARCH 14, 2022

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee on Labor, Culture and the Arts:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of H.B. No. 2355. The purpose of this bill is to provide appropriations for public employment cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the legislative branch.

Your support and passage of this bill will allow it to serve as a vehicle during this session in the event appropriations are provided for public employment cost items and cost adjustments for employees of the executive and judicial branches.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony and for your support.