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DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

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

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

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
SENATE BILL NOS. 2786 AND 2788

**February 22, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference**

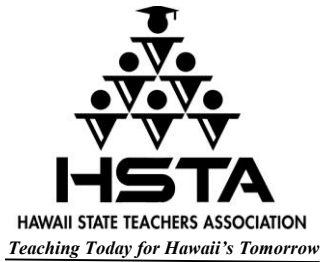
RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

The Department of Budget and Finance supports moving these measures or similar ones. Although these bargaining units (BU) have contracts in place, negotiations are currently in progress for possible contract adjustments/extensions and vehicle bills may be necessary if an agreement is reached requiring an appropriation prior to the end of the legislative session.

These measures appropriate and authorize appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for salary adjustments and other cost adjustments for Fiscal Biennium 2021-23.

The BU addressed in the bills are as follows: Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 2786, BU 5 and S.B. No. 2788, BU 7.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RE: SB 2786 - RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT COST ITEMS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2022

OSA TUI, JR., PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **strongly supports SB 2786**, making appropriations for collective bargaining cost items. This bill provides appropriations for collective bargaining cost items for the members of Unit (5) and their excluded counterparts, including the cost of salary adjustments negotiated between the State and the bargaining unit representative for fiscal biennium 2021-2023.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association is the exclusive representative of the state's 13,700 public school educators and the local affiliate of the 2.2 million member National Education Association. This measure provides a vehicle to fund a collective bargaining agreement for bargaining unit (5) upon ratification of new contract.

Although BU (5) has a contract in place, there are possible upcoming negotiations for possible contract adjustments/extensions and vehicle bills may be necessary if an agreement is reached requiring an appropriation prior to the end of the legislative session.

The Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.