

House of Representatives  
The Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2009

Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business & Military Affairs  
Rep. Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Rep. Issac Choy, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 24, 2009  
TIME: 7:00 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 312

**TESTIMONY OF THE UNITED PUBLIC WORKERS, AFSCME, LOCAL 646, AFL-CIO  
ON SB 1622, SD1, HD1, RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT**

My name is Dayton M. Nakanelua, state director of the United Public Workers, AFSCME, Local 646, AFL-CIO (UPW). On behalf of the approximately 13,000 members, of which over a thousand are in the private sector, the **UPW supports this measure** which requires certain new employers to retain employees displaced by a divestiture for a period of ninety days unless the new business is substantially dissimilar or the human resource needs are reduced.

We believe passage of this bill is in the state's best interest. In this recessionary, high unemployment environment, policies should be made to ensure that jobs are retained.. The mass layoffs that accompany the sale or transfer of a business (for example the Grand Wailea and Nanihoa resorts), not only cause needless disruption in the lives of the affected workers but also stresses the entire economic system: loss of income for the worker and family, less buying power to support businesses, more social services at a time when our safety net is already stretched thin, and decreased tax revenue. Today's economy, more than ever, calls for employment stability and confidence in the consumer market.

For these reasons we urge the passage of SB 1622, SD1, HD1.