



NEWS RELEASE

UPW Files for Permanent Injunction to Block Gov. Linda Lingle's Move to Circumvent Collective Bargaining Process

Complaint Filed Tuesday in First Circuit Court

Honolulu, Hawaii (June 16, 2009) – The United Public Workers (UPW) filed suit in first circuit court today seeking a permanent injunction to block Governor Linda Lingle's attempt to impose a three-day-a month furlough on the state's public employees.

The action challenges the constitutionality of the statewide unilateral furloughs announced June 1, 2009 by Governor Linda Lingle.

"It's unfortunate that we were forced to take this civil action," said Dayton Nakanelua, state director of the UPW. "We're all aware that we're in difficult economic times. And we all agree that we need to work together to find solutions. The UPW has made it clear to the governor from the start that we're willing to discuss modifications to our contract to do our part."

The suit was filed because the governor's unilateral action ignores the proper collective bargaining process and violates the State Constitution.

The UPW represents 13,000 public employees.