



Testimony to the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment  
Friday, February 5, 2016, 9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol - Conference Room 309

RE: HB2209, Relating to Employment

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the committee:

I am John Knorek, the Legislative Committee chair for the Society for Human Resource Management – Hawaii Chapter (“SHRM Hawaii”). SHRM Hawaii represents more than 800 human resource professionals in the State of Hawaii.

We are writing to respectfully SUPPORT HB 2209, relating to employment, which clarifies the scope of Hawaii’s anti-discrimination law by specifying that employers, employment agencies, and labor organizations may refuse to hire, refer, or discharge for reasons other than those protected under Hawaii’s anti-discrimination law.

Human resource professionals are keenly attuned to the needs of employers and employees. We are the frontline professionals responsible for businesses’ most valuable asset: human capital. We truly have our employers’ and employees’ interests at heart. We respectfully support this measure and hope to be an ongoing part of the dialogue concerning it.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

