



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

July 6, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty First State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

I am transmitting herewith HB465 HD1 SD1, without my approval and with the statement of objections relating to the measure.

HB465 HD1 SD1

RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 6, 2021

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 465

Honorable Members
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 465, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Collective Bargaining."

The purpose of this bill is to amend section 89-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to change the manner in which the representative of labor is appointed to the Hawaii Labor Relations Board (HLRB) and a means for removal of that representative if the exclusive representatives determine that the representative does not demonstrate the necessary ability to serve.

This bill is objectionable because there is concern that the summary removal process provided in this bill may jeopardize the HLRB's ability to make neutral and unbiased decisions. Because of the nature of the duties HLRB members perform, each HLRB member must remain neutral in the face of the facts and the law while earnestly representing their respective constituencies (labor, the employer, and the public). Historically, unanimous agreement among HLRB members has not been commonplace and there exist internal processes for resolving disagreements. The HLRB should be able to exercise these processes rather than allowing the exclusive representatives to remove HLRB members. I believe that the HLRB is currently able to maintain its present degree of independence and neutrality precisely because its members are protected from being summarily removed merely for political reasons or because of parties' assumption that they were entitled to a preordained outcome.

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For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 465 without my approval.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Y. Ige", with a stylized flourish at the end.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor of Hawai'i