



Testimony to the
House Committee on Labor & Public Employment
February 6, 2018
8:30 a.m.
State Capitol - Conference Room 309

RE: HB 2136 Relating to Family Leave

Aloha Chair Johanson, Vice Chair Holt and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Society for Human Resource Management – Hawaii Chapter (“SHRM Hawaii”), we are writing in opposition to HB 2136, relating to family leave. This bill establishes a family leave insurance program, which requires employees and employers to make contributions into an insurance fund to be used to provide employees with family leave insurance benefits in order to care for a designated person. It also appropriates funds to implement the program. SHRM Hawaii has a longstanding position of support for initiatives that promote flexibility between employer and employee, rather than requirements that do not take into account unique circumstances. This measure also has the potential to create a conflicting patchwork of leave requirements.

Human resource management professionals are responsible for the alignment of employees and employers to achieve organizational goals. HR professionals seek to balance the interests of employers and employees with the understanding that the success of each is mutually dependent. SHRM Hawaii represents more than 800 human resource professionals in the State of Hawaii. We look forward to contributing positively to the development of sound public policy and continuing to serve as a resource to the legislature on matters related to labor and employment laws.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

