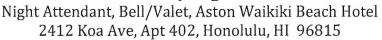


Testimony in Support of SB 1009

Tommy Angelos





My name is Tommy Angelos, and I work at the Aston Waikiki Beach Hotel. I'm employed as an overnight attendant in the Front Services Department. I've worked at this hotel for almost three years.

I get paid \$10.61 per hour. On the overnight, hardly anyone checks into or out of the hotel, or brings their car in or pulls their car out. That means to supplement my \$10 an hour, I rely on the porterage.

I have my paycheck right here. My allotment for 88.25 hours was \$150.17 – \$1.70 an hour for every hour I worked.

Porterage is the money that groups pay to a hotel so that their bags will get moved from the airport to their rooms when they arrive, and then back out from their rooms and back to the airport when they leave. We never get to see these guests, these guests never see how the bags arrive in their rooms and the tour coordinators inform the guests that they don't need to tip us because they have already paid a porterage fee.

But we don't think management is paying us everything they charge the guests.

During my three years there, I've asked the supervisor, who is the one who calculates all the porterage, what percentage we get. I never get an answer. We don't know how it gets figured out or if we get all of the porterage.

They lock up all the file cabinets where the information is kept on porterage and if you ask to have the key, they say they don't have the key, even though they do. If we are getting 100% of the porterage, why not share with us how it has been calculated?

There is a food and beverage service charge law in this state that protects food and beverage workers. Workers and guests deserve transparency. We deserve to know where they money is going. Help us put an end to the secrecy.