

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

March 18, 2021; 3:10 pm

Senate
Committee on Government Operations
Via Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

LATE

Re: SCR29/SR18 – REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS OF IMPLEMENTING TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE

Aloha Chair Moriwaki, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Government Operations Committee,

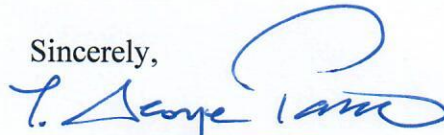
We **SUPPORT** SCR29/SR18. These resolutions request the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study of the benefits and drawbacks of implementing term limits for members of the Legislature.

The Ironworkers have supported term limits (and their study) for over twenty years.

Term limits could encourage politicians to have courage and enact unpopular but needed legislation, limit corruption in government, increase access of citizens to decision making by legislative bodies, limit the impact of monied lobbyist interests, decrease political games, encourage voting, and other positive things for democratic forms of government. Term limits could also force good politicians to retire, decrease the accountability of politicians to their constituents, decrease the power of voters, decrease legislative expertise only gained by being a legislator, and other positive things for democratic forms of government. The state could benefit from an overview of the findings on term limits given studies over the years, including the one done by the National Council of State Legislatures' Joint Project on Term Limits.

Voter confidence in government would be bolstered through a Legislative Reference Bureau or other governmental report specific to Hawaii that shares both the pros and cons of implementing term limits on Senate and House members.

Sincerely,



T. George Paris
Managing Director

TGP: MP