



888 Mililani Street, Suite 601
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2991

Telephone: 808.543.0000
Facsimile: 808.528.4059

www.hgea.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 30, 2013

Contact: Jodi Endo Chai, Senior Advisor
543-0029 or 741-4542

HGEA members reject 2013-2015 employer's offer for Bargaining Unit 13

Hawaii Government Employees Association's Unit 13 members rejected the employer's offer for a two-year contract, covering the period of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015, with 55% voting to reject the offer. Unit 13 will proceed to binding arbitration.

"This was an important and difficult decision for the Unit 13 members, as witnessed by the very close vote. There were many factors that our members had to consider," said HGEA Executive Director Randy Perreira. "Ultimately, a greater number of voting members were dissatisfied with the employer proposal and agreed with their negotiating team that proceeding to arbitration is the path to achieving their goals for a fair contract. While our members will not be universally happy with the outcome, I certainly expect that we will all come together and move forward. We will immediately begin the process toward arbitration and will continue to work hard to secure a new contract on behalf of our members."

The arbitration process begins with the selection of a neutral arbitrator. Once the arbitration panel is determined, the arbitration hearing will be scheduled (dependent upon the availability of the panel members) and both parties will exchange final proposals. In general, an arbitration decision is rendered approximately a few months after the conclusion of the hearing.

HGEA's Unit 13 membership consists of approximately 8,100 professional and scientific employees.

Ratification meetings for Unit 13 were held statewide from April 26 to April 30.

#

About HGEA

HGEA was founded in 1934 to ensure fair and equitable representation for government employees. HGEA is the largest labor union in Hawaii, with more than 42,000 members. HGEA represents state and county employees in seven bargaining units. HGEA also serves a large associate membership composed primarily of retirees, other state and county employees and officials, and federal and private sector employees.