



## **COUNTY MAYORS APPLAUD UPW RATIFICATION**

(Friday, March 12, 2010) – The Hawaii Council of Mayors today expressed its appreciation for the United Public Workers Unit 1 ratification vote for a new collective bargaining pact for this fiscal year and the next.

The mayors—Bernard Carvalho, Jr., of Kauai County; Mufi Hannemann of the City and County of Honolulu; Billy Kenoi of Hawaii County; and Charmaine Tavares of Maui County—issued this joint statement:

"After months of discussions, we're pleased that the new labor proposal for public employees represented by the United Public Workers was overwhelmingly ratified with 88% of voters approving the contract.

"We're grateful that the UPW recognized the need for shared sacrifices during a very difficult economic period and came to the table ready to collaborate on paring spending. The public is very dependent on the services provided by UPW members and we believe this agreement will ensure we can continue to fulfill our obligations.

"We're very pleased that we were able to bring the parties to the table and gain the cooperation of the UPW leadership throughout this process. Today's contract agreement is the direct result of the unprecedented collaboration among the four county mayors and the tireless efforts between them and the union."

The new collective bargaining agreement covers approximately 9,000 state and county workers across Hawaii. Among other provisions, the contract calls for up to 13 furlough days during the remainder of the current fiscal year and up to 24 furlough days for the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2010.



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