



# HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

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**For Immediate Release: April 24, 2009**

## LOCAL SAFETY ORGANIZATION, THE HAWAII AFL-CIO, AND THE HAWAII INJURED WORKERS ALLIANCE HONOR WORKERS KILLED OR INJURED

### ***“Good Jobs, Safe Jobs, Give Workers a Voice for a Change”*** **WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY – APRIL 28, 2009**

**Honolulu** – In honor of the many workers who have died or suffered occupational injuries and illnesses at their workplace, the Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), in partnership with the Hawaii State AFL-CIO and the Hawaii Injured Workers Alliance (HIWA), are recognizing **April 28, 2009** as **WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY**.

The AFL-CIO theme for the **April 28, 2009 WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY** is ***“Good Jobs, Safe Jobs, Give Workers a Voice for a Change.”***

“On Workers Memorial Day, the Hawaii State AFL-CIO, ASSE and HIWA ask that people remember our fallen workers who have been hurt or killed on the job, and that we all renew our commitment for safer workplaces,” said Hawaii State AFL-CIO President Randy Perreira.

Since 2007, a report prepared by AFL-CIO Safety and Health (April 2009), reported that Hawaii suffered 23 workplace fatalities and 18,100 cases of injuries and illnesses. With 21 inspectors enforcing the safety and health laws in Hawaii, it is estimated that it would take the Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division (HIOSH) 74 years to inspect each workplace once.

Perreira added, “As employers and employees, we need to be proactive in ensuring the health and safety of workers. We will continue to strive to work with employers to improve working conditions, and work with lawmakers to strengthen our job safety laws and protections. Workers Memorial Day presents an excellent opportunity to make the pledge for safer workplaces and working conditions.”

*The Hawaii Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers was incorporated in 1951 and currently has 204 chapter members. For additional information on the other chapter activities and events, please visit the website at [www.assehawaii.org](http://www.assehawaii.org) or our Society's website at [www.asse.org](http://www.asse.org). Founded in 1911, the Des Plaines, IL-based ASSE is the largest and oldest professional safety organization and is committed to protecting people, property, and the environment. Its more than 32,000 occupational safety, health and environmental professional members lead, manage, supervise, research and consult on safety, health and environmental issues in all industries, government, labor, health care and education.*

*The Hawaii State AFL-CIO is a voluntary federation of 72 local affiliate unions and councils in the State whose parent international unions are affiliated at the national level with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). Hawaii is one of 51 state federations operating under a charter granted by the AFL-CIO. Joined together since 1966, the affiliates of the Hawaii State AFL-CIO work in solidarity to promote the welfare of working men and women in Hawaii and the trade union movement, locally, nationally and world-wide. For more information, please visit their website at [www.hawaficio.org](http://www.hawaficio.org).*

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