

Hawaii Reporter

Freedom to Report Real News

Governor Should Veto Check Card Bill

By Rep. Gene Ward, R-Hawaii Kai, 4/16/2008 11:58:24 AM

Honolulu - United Laundry Services, Inc. President and CEO, Vicky Cayetano sent a letter to Governor Linda Lingle yesterday requesting her veto of House Bill 2974 relating to labor. She said both she and her husband, former Benjamin Cayetano, believe the bill will be harmful to Hawaii.

"Fundamentally we do not believe it is appropriate or fair to the employee to remove his or her right to a secure ballot in determining their representation by a labor organization. ... In a recent McLaughlin poll, 87 percent of voters agreed that 'every worker should continue to have the right to a federally supervised secret ballot election when deciding whether or not to join a union.'"

I believe, like Mrs. Cayetano, that the Card Check Bill is against our workers, would deprive them of their fundamental right to a secret ballot and expose them to threats and intimidation tactics.

As a former Democracy Officer with USAID, I have seen first hand how the secret ballot protects the integrity of the process. To deny our citizens of this right is simply reprehensible and takes us backward.

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