October 5, 2005

Dear State Social Worker/Human Services Professional:

The Department of Human Resources Development has been meeting with the stakeholders—the Departments of Human Services, Health, Education and Public Safety, the Hawaii Government Employees’ Association, the Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, and the local schools of social work—to develop plans to implement the requirements of Act 238 and House Concurrent Resolution No. 265, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005. We are writing to inform you about events that will occur in the near future as a result of the establishment of two separate series—the Social Worker series and the Human Services Professional series.

- On October 17, 2005, two separate series will be established – Social Worker II, III, IV, V, VI and VII (SR-18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28) and Human Services Professional I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII (SR-16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28).

- All employees who were reallocated from the Social Worker series to the Social Worker/Human Services Professional series in May 2004, and currently occupy a Social Worker/Human Services Professional position (and have had no break in service), will be reallocated to the revised Social Worker series effective October 17, 2005. These employees will have until June 30, 2010, to obtain a social work degree; otherwise they will be reallocated to the Human Services Professional series on July 1, 2010.

After October 17, 2005, employees who leave State service, or otherwise have a break in service, or move into a different position in a series of work other than Social Worker, Human Services Professional, Child/Adult Protective Services Specialist or Supervisor, or Parole Officer, will no longer retain the social worker title.

- Employees, who were hired as a Social Worker/Human Services Professional, will be reallocated to the Human Services Professional series, effective October 17, 2005.
• Employees, who were hired as a Social Worker/Human Services Professional and have submitted appropriate verification of a social work degree to their departmental personnel office on or before October 31, 2005, will be reallocated to the Social Worker series effective November 1, 2005.

• Employees, who were hired as a Social Worker/Human Services Professional and submit appropriate verification of a social work degree after October 31, 2005, will be reallocated to the Social Worker series at the beginning of the pay period (1st or 16th of the month) following the date such verification is received by their departmental personnel office.

We will continue to meet with the stakeholders to discuss plans to make social work education accessible to employees who are interested in pursuing a social work degree. We will keep you informed as information becomes available.

If you have any questions, please call your personnel office.

Very truly yours,

MARIE C. LADERTA
Director