

STATE OF HAWAI'I KA MOKU 'ĀINA O HAWAI'I

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA

ANNE LOPEZ ATTORNEY GENERAL LOIO KUHINA

ATTORNEY GENERAL LOPEZ JOINS 11 OTHER STATES WARNING FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ABOUT MISLEADING BUYOUT OFFER

News Release 2025-13

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 2025

HONOLULU – Attorney General Anne Lopez today joined a coalition of 12 attorneys general warning federal employees about the Trump administration's misleading "deferred resignation" program, which offers federal employees pay through September 30, 2025, if they resign by February 6.

"Federal workers are part of our Hawai'i 'ohana. They provide vital support to Hawai'i through a host of services, programs and resources tied to drug intervention, internet crimes against children, public corruption, agriculture, commerce, defense, education, energy, health, transportation and veterans' affairs," said Attorney General Lopez. "We urge federal employees to be cautious and follow their union guidance to protect their rights."

On January 28, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) sent an email to millions of federal employees detailing a new deferred resignation program. Employees were told that if they accept the offer and resign, they will continue receiving all pay and benefits and be exempt from in-person work requirements until September 30. OPM sent another email to federal employees on January 30 reiterating the offer and urging them to find "higher productivity" jobs outside of government. The OPM emails instructed employees that they have until February 6 to decide to remain in their position or resign under the deferred resignation program and warned that those who did not resign were not guaranteed to keep their jobs.

Department of the Attorney General News Release 2025-13 Page 2

Immediately following OPM's email, unions representing federal employees warned their members against accepting the offer. The American Federation of Government Employees, the largest federal employees union, released information for its members warning them that employees who accepted the offer were not guaranteed its benefits. The National Federation of Federal Employees similarly warned its members against accepting the offer.

Joining Attorney General Lopez in issuing the warning to federal employees are the attorneys general of Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Vermont and Washington.

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Media contacts:

Dave Day

Special Assistant to the Attorney General

Office: 808-586-1284

Email: david.day@hawaii.gov

Web: http://ag.hawaii.gov

Toni Schwartz

Public Information Officer

Hawai'i Department of the Attorney General

Office: 808-586-1252 Cell: 808-379-9249

Email: Toni.E.Schwartz@hawaii.gov

Web: http://ag.hawaii.gov