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Press Release

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Department of Labor Publishes Samoan Language Employee FAQ *Commissioner is working with community groups to raise awareness of labor rights*

JUNEAU: The Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) has published an employee FAQ [in Samoan](#), and will have hard copies of the flyer available at its Wage and Hour offices in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. DOLWD is working with community groups including the YWCA, Polynesian Community Center, NAACP, N.K.O.H. Hawaiian Civic Club, and others to raise awareness of Alaskans' labor rights.

"Alaskans have the same minimum wage, overtime pay, and other labor rights regardless of the languages we speak," said Commissioner Heidi Drygas.

Alaska's Pacific Islander population more than doubled over the last decade, according to data from the U.S. Census. Most Alaskans of Pacific Island descent are Samoan or Native Hawaiian. Department of Labor staff recently gave a presentation on labor rights to the N.K.O.H. Hawaiian Civic Club.

Department of Labor and YWCA staff will be participating in Polynesian Cultural Flag Day on Saturday, June 27th in Anchorage's Cuddy Family Park. Department staff will give a presentation on labor rights, and will have employee FAQ materials available in English and Samoan. Department staff is also giving a presentation at the Anchorage NAACP's general membership meeting on Monday, June 15th. If other community groups are interested in a presentation on labor rights, they should contact Commissioner Drygas' office at 269-7485.

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