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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. Section 386-25, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:  
3           "(b) The director may refer [~~employees~~] an employee, who  
4 may have or have suffered permanent disability or who has  
5 otherwise been deemed unable to return to the employee's  
6 position as a result of work injuries and who, in the director's  
7 opinion, can be vocationally rehabilitated, to the department of  
8 human services or to private providers of rehabilitation  
9 services for vocational rehabilitation services that are  
10 feasible. A referral shall be made upon recommendation of the  
11 rehabilitation unit established under section 386-71.5 and after  
12 the employee has been deemed physically able to participate in  
13 rehabilitation by the employee's attending physician. The unit  
14 shall include appropriate professional staff and shall have the  
15 following duties and responsibilities:

16           (1) To review and approve rehabilitation plans developed  
17           by certified providers of rehabilitation services,  
18           whether they [~~be~~] are private or public;



- 1           (2) To adopt rules consistent with this section that shall
- 2           expedite and facilitate the identification,
- 3           notification, and referral of industrially injured
- 4           employees to rehabilitation services[7] and establish
- 5           minimum standards for providers providing
- 6           rehabilitation services under this section;
- 7           (3) To certify private and public providers of
- 8           rehabilitation services meeting the minimum standards
- 9           established under paragraph (2); and
- 10          (4) To enforce the implementation of rehabilitation
- 11          plans."

12           SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

**Report Title:**

Vocational Rehabilitation

**Description:**

Adds an employee who has otherwise been deemed unable to return to the employee's position to those whom the director of labor and industrial relations may refer to the department of human services or private vocational rehabilitation services. (HB2558 HD1)

