
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 who may have or have
4 suffered permanent disability or who have otherwise been deemed
5 unable to return to their regular jobs as a result of work
6 injuries and who, in the director's opinion, can be vocationally
7 rehabilitated, to the department of human services or to private
8 providers of rehabilitation services for vocational
9 rehabilitation services that are feasible. A referral shall be
10 made upon recommendation of the rehabilitation unit established
11 under section 386-71.5 [and] after the employee has been deemed
12 physically able to participate in rehabilitation by the
13 employee's attending physician. The unit shall include
14 appropriate professional staff and shall have the following
15 duties and responsibilities:

16 (1) To review and approve rehabilitation plans developed
17 by certified providers of rehabilitation services,
18 whether they be 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, 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 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed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 June 30, 2099.



Report Title:

Workers' Compensation Law; Vocational Rehabilitation

Description:

Allows the director to refer employees who have been deemed unable to return to work in their regular jobs as a result of work injury to receive vocational rehabilitation services.

(SD1)

