H.B. NO. 866

1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

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

| 1 | SECT | ION 1. Section 386-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is | |
|----|---------------|--|-----------|
| 2 | amended b | y adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted | |
| 3 | and to re | ad as follows: | |
| 4 | " <u>"</u> 0c | cupational disease" means any abnormal condition or an | <u>.y</u> |
| 5 | acute, ch | conic, or recurring injury, illness, infection, | |
| 6 | disabilit | y, disorder, syndrome, or symptom that is: | |
| 7 | (1) | Contracted in the course of employment through | |
| 8 | | exposure to operational or environmental factors that | • |
| 9 | | result in the absence of work for a period of two or | |
| 10 | | more working days or shifts; and | |
| 11 | (2) | The result of causes and conditions that are: | |
| 12 | | (A) Characteristic of and peculiar to a particular | |
| 13 | | trade, occupation, process, or employment; or | |
| 14 | | (B) The byproduct of a particular work environment, | |
| 15 | | although generally not peculiar to a particular | |
| 16 | | industry. | |
| 17 | An occupa | tional disease includes conditions caused from | |

18 chemical, physical, ergonomic, biological, or psychosocial 2007-0099 HB SMA-3.doc

H.B. NO. 866

2

| 1 | hazards that may result from systemic infection, repeated stress | | |
|----|---|--|--|
| 2 | or strain, exposure to toxins, poisons, fumes, or biological | | |
| 3 | agents, including through injection, inhalation, absorption, | | |
| 4 | ingestion, or direct contact, or other continuing conditions of | | |
| 5 | the employment. | | |
| 6 | Occupational disease does not mean an ordinary disease of | | |
| 7 | life to which the general public is exposed, unless the | | |
| 8 | incidence of the disease is substantially higher in the | | |
| 9 | particular trade, occupation, process, or employment than for | | |
| 10 | the general public." | | |
| 11 | SECTION 2. Section 386-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is | | |
| 12 | amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows: | | |
| 13 | "(a) If an employee suffers personal injury either by | | |
| 14 | accident arising out of and in the course of the employment or | | |
| 15 | by <u>occupational</u> disease [proximately caused by or resulting from | | |
| 16 | the nature of the employment], the employee's employer or the | | |
| 17 | special compensation fund shall pay compensation to the employee | | |
| 18 | or the employee's dependents as provided in this chapter. | | |
| 19 | Accident arising out of and in the course of the employment | | |
| 20 | includes the wilful act of a third person directed against an | | |
| 21 | employee because of the employee's employment." | | |

2007-0099 HB SMA-3.doc

Page 2

H.B. NO. 866

1 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed

2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

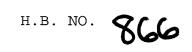
3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4

INTRODUCED BY:

Kn M. T.

JAN 1 9 2007



Report Title:

Workers' Compensation; Covered Injuries; Occupational Diseases

Description:

Requires occupational diseases to be considered work injuries that are compensable under workers' compensation law.

