

JAN 22 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST
FUND.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 87A-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending the definition of "employee-beneficiary" to
3 read as follows:

4 "Employee-beneficiary" means:

5 (1) An employee;

6 (2) The [~~beneficiary~~] spouse of an employee who is killed
7 in the performance of the employee's duty[+], until
8 the spouse remarries;

9 (3) [~~An employee who retired prior to 1961;~~] The child of
10 an employee who is killed in the performance of the
11 employee's duty, until the child marries or reaches
12 the age of nineteen, whichever occurs first;

13 (4) The [~~beneficiary~~] spouse of a retired member of the
14 employees' retirement system[+], a county pension
15 system[+], or a police, firefighters, or bandsmen
16 pension system of the State or a county, upon the

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1 death of the retired member[+] until the spouse
2 remarries; or
3 (5) The [~~surviving~~] child of a [~~deceased retired employee,~~
4 ~~if the child is unmarried and under the age of~~
5 ~~nineteen;~~] retired member of the employees' retirement
6 system, a county pension system, or a police,
7 firefighters, or bandsmen pension system of the State
8 or a county, upon the death of the retired member and
9 until the child marries or reaches the age of
10 nineteen, whichever occurs first;
11 [~~(6) The surviving spouse of a deceased retired employee,~~
12 ~~if the surviving spouse does not subsequently~~
13 ~~remarry;~~]
14 provided that the employee, the employee's [~~beneficiary, or the~~
15 ~~beneficiary of the deceased retired employee~~] spouse or child,
16 or the retired member's spouse or child is deemed eligible by
17 the board to participate in a health benefits plan or long-term
18 care benefits plan under this chapter."

19 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.


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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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BY REQUEST

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JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: BUDGET AND FINANCE

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify the definition of "employee-beneficiary" by deleting obsolete language and by revising language used in the definition to be consistent with Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF) administrative rules and current practice.

MEANS: Amend section 87A-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: The reason for this bill is to eliminate any confusion or misinterpretations regarding which "beneficiaries" of an employee killed in the performance of duty or of a deceased retiree are eligible to become EUTF employee-beneficiaries. The intent of this bill is not to make new persons eligible for EUTF benefits nor to deny EUTF benefits to persons who now are eligible.

Impact on the public: The bill has no direct impact on the public. Based on current EUTF rules and practices, there are no costs or cost savings associated with this bill.

Impact on the department and other agencies: This bill does not change current EUTF practice, and therefore it will have no impact on the department or other agencies or their employees. By clarifying statutory language, the bill will assist EUTF to more conclusively and consistently determine eligibility for benefits.

GENERAL FUND: None.

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OTHER FUNDS: None.

PBBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: None.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: None

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.