

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 605 -08

Honolulu, Hawaii
FEB 15, 2008

RE: H.B. No. 2017

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred H.B. No. 2017 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to amend the workers' compensation law to require that a vocational rehabilitation provider first determine if modified or other work suitable for gainful employment with the employee's present employer is available before pursuing employment opportunities with another employer or providing training to obtain employment in another occupational field.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), Hawaii State AFL-CIO, Hawaii Government Employees Association, ILWU Local 142, the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals, and Vocational Management Consultants, Inc., testified in support of this measure.

Act 11, Special Session Laws of 2005, codified DLIR's administrative rule Section 12-14-5 relating to vocational rehabilitation within Section 386-25, Hawaii Revised Statutes. In doing so, the logical first step of trying to place an injured worker in a position within their company of present employment was omitted. This measure corrects this oversight and will allow employees who are injured at work to remain employed with the same employer.

HB2017 HSCR LAB HMS 2008-1502



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor & Public Employment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2017 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Labor & Public
Employment,



ALEX M. SONSON, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

HSCR 605-08

Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2017	Committee Referral: LAB, FIN	Date: 1/25/08		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
LAB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. SONSON, Alex M. (C)	✓			
2. NAKASONE, Bob (VC)	✓			
3. EVANS, Cindy	✓			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	✓			
5. LEE, Marilyn B.	✓			
6. LUKE, Sylvia	✓			
7. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
8. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	✓			
9. SOUKI, Joseph M.	✓			
10. TAKAMINE, Dwight Y.	✓			
11. TAKUMI, Roy M.	✓			
12. MEYER, Colleen Rose	✓			
13. PINE, Kymerly Marcos	✓			
TOTAL (13)	13			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral _____ did not support recommendation. _____ committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office				