## HAWAII BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO Gentry Pacific Design Center, Suite 215A 560 N. Nimitz Highway, #50 Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 (808) 524-2249 - FAX (808) 524-6893

## LATE TESTIMONY

January 24, 2008

Honorable Rep. Alex M. Sonson, Chair Honorable Rep. Bob Nakasone, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment Hawaii State Capital 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: IN OPPOSITION OF <u>HB 2017</u> RELATING TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION Hearing: Friday, January 25, 2008, 8:15 a.m.

Dear Chair Sonson, Vice Chair Nakasone and the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment:

For the Record my name is Buzz Hong the Executive Director for the Hawaii Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO. Our Council is comprised of 16-construction unions and a membership of 26,000 statewide.

The Council OPPOSES the passage of House Bill 2017, which amends workers' compensation law to require that, as part of the process for returning an injured worker to suitable gainful employment, a vocational rehabilitation provider examine the feasibility of modified or other work at the employee's same employer.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in opposition of HB2017.

Sincerely,

William "Buzz" Hong

WBH/dg