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January 28, 2008

TO:

Representative Alex Sonson

Chair, Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Hawaii State Capitol, Room 323

Via Email: LABtestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

FROM:

Anne T. Horiuchi, Esq.

H.B. 3164 Relating to Workers' Compensation Negotiation for

Benefit Coverage

Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2008 at 8:30 a.m.

Dear Chair Sonson and Members of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment:

I am Anne Horiuchi, testifying on behalf of the American Insurance Association (AIA). AIA represents approximately 350 major insurance companies that provide all lines of property and casualty insurance and write more than \$123 billion annually in premiums. AIA members supply 23 percent of the property/casualty insurance sold in Hawaii. The association is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and has representatives in every state.

H.B. 3164 provides public unions and employers the same ability as private unions and their signatory employers to collectively design and enter into an alternative workers' compensation system.

AIA is in the process of reviewing the various workers' compensation measures before the Legislature. At this time, AIA takes no position on H.B. 3164.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit testimony.