

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 779

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 8, 2011

RE: H.B. No. 466
H.D. 3

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred H.B. No. 466, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve the fairness of the workers compensation system and provide better quality care for those workers hurt on the job by requiring independent medical examinations and permanent impairment rating examinations for workers' compensation claims to be performed by physicians mutually agreed upon by employers and employees or appointed by the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), ILWU Local 142, Hawaii State AFL-CIO, Hawaii Injured Worker's Alliance, Hawaii Chapter - American Physical Therapy Association, Workstar Injury Recovery Center, and numerous concerned individuals testified in support of this bill. The City and County of Honolulu Department of Human Resources, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; Activities & Attractions Association of Hawaii; General Contractors Association of Hawaii; Inalab, Inc.; Technical Experts, Inc.; Kilakila Employer Services; National Federation of Independent Business Hawaii; Retail Merchants of Hawaii; Hawaii Insurers Council; Hawaii Independent Insurance Agents Association; Society for Human Resource Management-Hawaii Chapter; HJB Convenience Corporation; Westaff

HB466 HD3 HSCR FIN HMS 2011-2680



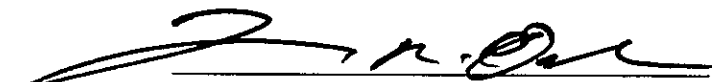
Hawaii; Hawaiian Electric Co. Inc.; Maui Electric Company, LTD.; Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc.; Property Casualty Insurers Association of America; Hawaii Employers' Mutual Insurance Company, Inc.; Eagle Construction Company; Tawhiri Power, and numerous concerned individuals testified in opposition to this measure. The Department of Human Resources Development and several concerned individuals provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation for three workers' compensation hearing officer positions and two office assistant positions in DLIR from \$194,000 to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Inserting a provision repealing this measure in two years with a sunset date of June 30, 2013;
- (3) Changing its effective date to July 1, 2030, to encourage further discussion; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 466, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 466, H.D. 3.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Finance,



MARCUS R. OSHIRO, Chair



