



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS**

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March 24, 2011

To: The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Date: Monday, March 28, 2011
Time: 10:15am
Place: Conference Room 329, State Capitol

From: Dwight Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Re: HCR 254/HR 217

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

HCR 254/HR 217 requests the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to engage in data exchanges in order to verify the eligibility of recipients of Medicaid assistance.

II. CURRENT LAW

Section 2651, Public Law 98-369, which amended Title XI of the Social Security Act requires the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' (DLIR) UI Division to establish an income and eligibility verification system with the Department of Human Services (DHS) which administers the AFDC, Medicaid, Food Stamps and any program approved under Title I, X, XIV or XVI of the Social Security Act.

III. HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION/HOUSE RESOLUTION

While the Department supports the intent of these resolutions, we would like to clarify that an Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS) Match Agreement is already in

place as required by federal law and has been in operation since 1989. The current IEVS Match Agreement between the DLIR and DHS allows staff of the AFDC, Food Stamps, and Medicaid programs access to specific unemployment insurance information in order to identify ineligible, overpaid or underpaid recipients. However, the Department is receptive to future discussions with the Department of Human Services to expand the current scope or increase the effectiveness of the exchange agreement to accomplish the objectives intended by the Legislature in these resolutions.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA McMANAMAN.
DIRECTOR

PANKAJ BHANOT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
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March 28, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Committee on Labor and Public Employment

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **H.C.R. 254/H.R. 217 – REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND THE DEPARTMENT
OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ENGAGE IN DATA EXCHANGES IN
ORDER TO VERIFY THE ELIGIBILITY OF RECIPIENTS OF
MEDICAID ASSISTANCE**

Hearing: Monday, March 28, 2011; 10:15 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of these resolutions is to request the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the Department of Human Services exchange data to verify the eligibility of Medicaid recipients.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the intent of these resolutions but these resolutions are not necessary because this exchange of data is already occurring.

As part of the Income and Eligibility Verification System (IEVS Match Agreement with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) which was effective March 9, 1987, the DHS receives State Wage Information Collection Agency (SWICA) and Unemployment Insurance Benefits data from DLIR. This exchange of data is

mandated by federal law for Medicaid and financial assistance programs and is used to determine eligibility.

DHS concurs with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations to continue discussions between the departments to further the effectiveness of the exchanges.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.