THE LAW OFFICES OF DOUGLAS THOMAS MOORE

Over 23 years serving the People of Hawai'i

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February 3, 2012

VIA:HAND DELIVERY

TO: House Labor Committee

Hon. Rep. Karl Rhoads, Chair Hon. Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair

Re:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2152 TO BE HEARD 2/3/2012 @ 9:00 a.m

Dear Rep. Rhoads and Committee Members:

I support HB 2152 to increase the workers' compensation medical fee schedule of compensation for medical care, services, and supplies from 110% to 130% of the Medicare Resource Based Relative Value Scale applicable to Hawai'i as prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

I support this measure because as a workers' compensation practitioner I have heard from medical providers that the current 110% reimbursement rate is insufficient to continue providing medical care to injured workers. As such, I have seen numerous medical providers, including physician specialists, opt out of providing medical care for workers' compensation injured workers. This is to the great detriment of injured workers; this also hurts employers because their injured workers may not be getting medically rehabilitated and returned to the workforce in a timely manner. This measure has become necessary. We need the increase to encourage medical providers to continue to provide to workers' compensation injured workers quality medical treatment to rehabilitate the injured workers and return them to the workforce as soon as feasible and appropriate. We need the increase to encourage medical providers to opt back into the system to provide to workers' compensation injured workers quality medical treatment to rehabilitate the injured workers and return them to the workforce as soon as feasible and appropriate

Help injured workers receive quality medical care by supporting HB 2152. Please pass this bill. Thank you. Should you have any questions or need further information from me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very Truly Yours,

Douglas Thomas Moore