



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

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March 27, 2013

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair,
The Honorable Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair,
The Honorable Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair, and
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2013
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room 308, State

From: Dwight Y. Takamine, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: S.B. No. 877 SD1HD1 Relating to Occupational Safety and Health Hearings

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The purpose of this proposal is to clarify the procedure for using first class mail by the Hawaii Labor Relations Board (HLRB) to notify parties of a hearing, notwithstanding section 91-9.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). The bill also clarifies the HLRB's powers for conducting appeals.

The department strongly supports this proposal with the same contents as an administration proposal.

II. CURRENT LAW

Current law requires the Board to use registered or certified mail to notice the parties.

III. COMMENTS ON THE SENATE BILL

The proposal would permit the HLRB to more efficiently allocate resources. The money from the postage savings would be used in developing an electronic filing system and is the first step in HLRB's strategic planning efforts to move the agency into the digital age with a goal towards paperless litigation and electronic filing and document management.