



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

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January 31, 2013

To: The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair,  
The Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Date: Friday, February 1, 2013

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016, State

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

**Re: S.B. No. 877 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.

**II. CURRENT LAW**

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

**III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE 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.