

April 11, 2017

Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Notice of Hearing

Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016

Re: HSCR 1615

Dear Chairman Agaran and Vice Chair Karl Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lily Miyahira and I am strongly in support of HSCR 1615 (HCR 105). I currently work for a private vocational rehabilitation office for the past 21 years for as an Office Manager/Vocational Technician. There VR unit has implemented many changes which makes it difficult for VR Counselors to work independently with the injured workers, prolonging the process, and even denying the injured worker VR services. Certain decisions that have negatively impacted the injured workers' benefits have also created hardships by raising the cost for them out of pocket just to defend their cases. Vocational Rehabilitation should be a unit that should be helpful not harmful. The working relationship between the VR counselors and DCD unit has never been this difficult until recently.

Please pass HRC 105 (HSCR1615). There needs to be an audit of the DCD unit to regain the VR process to where it benefits the injured work instead of hindering their process.

Sincerely,

Lily Miyahira