

**ACT 7**

**A Bill for an Act Amending Chapter 97, Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as Amended, Relating to Workmen's Compensation.**

*Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

**SECTION 1.** This Act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure deemed necessary in the public interest within the meaning of section 11 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii:

The following is a statement of the facts constituting such urgency:

1. Section 97-110 of the Hawaii workmen's compensation law requires employers to file reports of all injuries soon after they occur. It also requires employers to file interim and final reports of all injuries with the director. These reports facilitate the investigation of workmen's compensation cases by the director and help assure that all injured employees will receive benefits granted them by the law. Injured employees, however, are not informed in any way of the progress of their cases and often neglect to prosecute their claims because of such lack of information. This situation must be corrected by requiring that all injured employees be sent copies of reports filed with the director.

2. Section 97-111 requires the filing of reports of any treatment or service rendered injured employees by physicians, surgeons, and hospitals within thirty days after being requested by employers and the director. It also requires employers to furnish copies of all medical reports to injured employees or their representatives within thirty days after being requested to do so. Experience has indicated that the thirty day periods above are too long and unduly delay the processing of cases. In order to assure the expeditious processing of cases, the foregoing periods should be shortened to fifteen day periods.

It is necessary and urgent that the workmen's compensation law be amended as proposed above so that injured employees will be assured of their rightful benefits under the law.

**SECTION 2.** Section 97-110 of the Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding thereto a new paragraph to read as follows:

"Copies of all reports, other than those of fatal injuries, filed with the director as required by this section shall be sent to the injured employee by the employer."

**SECTION 3.** Section 97-111 of the Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955, as amended, is hereby further amended by deleting the word "thirty" wherever it appears and substituting therefor, the word "fifteen".

**SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
(Approved March 28, 1966.) **H.B. 320.**