

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 28 2023

RE: S.B. No. 696
S.D. 1
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sirs:

Your Committee on Conference on the disagreeing vote of the Senate to the amendments proposed by the House of Representatives in S.B. No. 696, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION,"

having met, and after full and free discussion, has agreed to recommend and does recommend to the respective Houses the final passage of this bill in an amended form.

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Authorize the wages of other employees in comparable employment to be considered when computing the average weekly wages of an injured public board member, reserve police officer, police chaplain, reserve public safety law enforcement officer, sheriffs' chaplain, volunteer firefighter, volunteer boating enforcement officer, or volunteer conservation and resources enforcement officer; and



- (2) Clarify the computation of average weekly wages of an injured volunteer firefighter for workers' compensation benefits purposes.

Your Committee on Conference finds that under existing law, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations is prohibited from considering the wages of other employees in comparable employment when computing the average weekly wages of various volunteer positions, including reserve police officers, volunteer firefighters, and volunteer boating enforcement officers. Your Committee on Conference recognizes that the work performed by these volunteers is both vital and potentially dangerous and further finds that it is appropriate for any of these volunteers who sustain injuries in the line of duty to be afforded equitable workers' compensation benefits. This measure ensures those who volunteer in certain volunteer positions are fairly compensated with sufficient coverage under workers' compensation laws for the services they perform.

Your Committee on Conference has amended this measure by making it effective upon its approval.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the managers of your Committee on Conference that is attached to this report, your Committee on Conference is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 696, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Final Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 696, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, C.D. 1.



Respectfully submitted on behalf
of the managers:

ON THE PART OF THE HOUSE



SCOT Z. MATSUYOSHI
Co-Chair

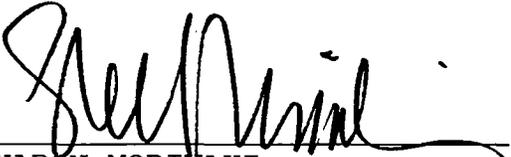


JACKSON D. SAYAMA
Co-Chair



ANDREW BARRETT
Co-Chair

ON THE PART OF THE SENATE



SHARON MORIWAKI
Chair



GLENN WAKAI
Co-Chair



CHRIS LEE
Co-Chair



Hawai'i State Legislature

CCR103

Record of Votes of a
Conference Committee

Bill / Concurrent Resolution No.: SB 696, SD 1, HD 1	Date/Time: 4/28/23 10:30 am
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The recommendation of the House and Senate managers is to pass with amendments (CD).

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision.

<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the Senate Manager(s) is to AGREE to the House amendments made to the Senate Measure	<input type="checkbox"/> The recommendation of the House Manager(s) is to AGREE to the Senate amendments made to the House Measure.
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Senate Managers	A	WR	N	E	House Managers	A	WR	N	E
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y., Chr.	X				MATAYOSHI, Scot Z., Co-Chr.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn, Co-Chr.	X				SAYAMA, Jackson D., Co-Chr.	X			
LEE, Chris, Co-Chr.	X				GARRETT, Andrew Takuya, Co-Chr.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X	MARTINEZ, Rose	X			
					ALCOS III, David	X			
TOTAL	3			1	TOTAL	5			

A = Aye WR = Aye with Reservations N = Nay E = Excused

Senate Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted	House Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted
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Senate Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature: 	House Lead Chair's or Designee's Signature:
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Distribution:	Original <i>File with Conference Committee Report</i>	Yellow <i>House Clerk's Office</i>	Pink <i>Senate Clerk's Office</i>	Goldenrod <i>Drafting Agency</i>
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