HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE **REGULAR SESSION OF 2007**

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COMMITTEE ON LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Rep. Alex M. Sonson, Chair Rep. Bob Nakasone, Vice Chair 2007 FEB -6 A 9: 20

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Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE:

Friday, February 9, 2007

TIME:

9:00 a.m.

PLACE:

Conference Room 309

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

AGENDA

HB 1381

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL CARE.

Allows employers the opportunity to provide their employees with an employer-designated healthcare provider list of attending physicians and/or physician networks. Injured employees would be allowed to "opt out" of the plan after 120 days and see physicians that are not on

the list.

HB 1386

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION MEDICAL

TREATMENT.

Requires Medical providers to treat injured workers in accordance with clinically tested, evidence based treatment guidelines. Requires medical providers to utilize the Official Disabilities guidelines

("ODG") Treatment in Workers' Comp, 3rd edition.

HB 854

RELATING TO CONTINUED TEMPORARY TOTAL DISABILITY

BENEFITS TO INJURED EMPLOYEES.

Prevents the termination of temporary total disability benefits until the director of labor and industrial relations decides to terminate them.

HB 855

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

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Ensures that uninterrupted medical care is provided to an injured employee, even if the injured employee's employer denies further treatment, until the director of labor and industrial relations renders a

final decision on the matter.

HB 1380

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION STRESS CLAIMS.

Disallows workers' compensation claims for mental illness or injury proximately caused by all personnel actions taken in good faith by the

employer.

HB 866	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Requires occupational diseases to be considered work injuries that are compensable under workers' compensation law.	LAB, FIN
HB 856	RELATING TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION. Adds an employee who has otherwise been deemed unable to return to the employee's position after the injury may have stabilized, where no offer for permanent alternative duty at equal compensation is made by the employer, to those whom the director of labor and industrial relations may refer to the department of human services or private vocational rehabilitation services. Effective 7/1/07.	LAB, FIN
HB 1015	RELATING TO WORKER'S RIGHTS. Permits director of labor to reopen worker's compensation case after settlement if settlement has been obtained by the exertion of undue influence over any party or as a result of the disability or mental incompetence of the employee. Requires private employers who provide pension plans to their employees to allow an employee who has vested to receive pension payments upon becoming disabled, regardless of age.	LAB, JUD
НВ 1877	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Exempts from the workers' compensation law owners of businesses holding at least 50% interest in their company.	LAB, EDB
НВ 867	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW. Allows negotiation between employers and public unions over workers' compensation coverage and benefits.	LAB, FIN
НВ 970	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Requires workers' compensation insurers to provide reports to the insurance commissioner.	LAB, CPC
HB 1050	RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY. Requires the Hawaii employers' mutual insurance company to make liability insurance available to small contractors.	LAB, CPC
HB 1383	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Gives small business owners who meet certain exclusions the option not to obtain workers' compensation insurance	LAB, EDB
HB 1294	RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND. Provides an appropriate, cost-neutral adjustment of the base monthly contributions for retiree benefit plans, in the event the EUTF Board of Trustees adopts a revised rate structure for its retiree benefit plans.	LAB, FIN

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

PERSONS WISHING TO TESTIFY ARE REQUESTED TO SUBMIT 40 COPIES OF THEIR TESTIMONY AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE HEARING TO: (1) THE COMMITTEE'S VICE CHAIR IN ROOM 424, STATE CAPITOL, OR (2) THE HOUSE SGT.-AT-ARMS TESTIMONY DROP OFF BOX IN THE TURNAROUND AREA OF THE CAPITOL BASEMENT PARKING LOT. TESTIMONY MAY ALSO BE FAXED IF LESS THAN 5 PAGES IN LENGTH TO THE HOUSE SGT.-AT-ARMS OFFICE AT: 586-6501 (OAHU) OR 1-800-535-3859 (NEIGHBOR ISLANDS).

WHEN FAXING, PLEASE INDICATE TO WHOM THE TESTIMONY IS BEING SUBMITTED, THE DATE AND TIME OF THE HEARING, AND THE REQUIRED NO. OF COPIES THAT IS NEEDED FOR SUBMITTAL.

IT IS ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE COPIES BE ON ONE SIDE OF AN 8-1/2" X 11" SHEET WITH TWO HOLES PUNCHED AT THE TOP. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT 586-6520.

IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE OR AUXILIARY AIDS AND/OR SERVICES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS OF THE STATE HOUSE (I.E., SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY, OR PARKING DESIGNATED FOR THE DISABLED), PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE HEARING SO ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE. PROMPT REQUESTS SUBMITTED HELP TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS AND APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS.

SELECTED HEARINGS ARE BROADCAST LIVE. CHECK THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE BROADCAST SCHEDULE ON THE "CAPITOL TV" WEB SITE AT WWW.CAPITOLTV.ORG OR CALL 550-8074 FOR A LISTING.

Rep. Alex M. Sonson

Chair