

FEB 28 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND TO AMEND ITS RULES TO ALLOW CONTINUATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF CHILD DEPENDENTS BEYOND AGE TWENTY-FOUR IF THE DEPENDENT HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE UNTIL AGE TWENTY-FOUR.

1 WHEREAS, section 87A-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
2 the Board of Trustees of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health
3 Benefits Trust Fund to establish eligibility criteria to
4 determine who can qualify as a dependent-beneficiary; and
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6 WHEREAS, section 3.01, Hawaii Administrative Rules, of the
7 Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund defines a
8 dependent beneficiary, in relevant part, as being a child who is
9 under the age of nineteen or a full-time student and under the
10 age of twenty-four; and
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12 WHEREAS, many instances are currently occurring wherein a
13 beneficiary has a child who is under the age twenty-four, who
14 has been called to active duty with the military reserves or
15 national guard, who has returned to Hawaii, who has resumed or
16 commenced education as a student, and who then has reached age
17 twenty-four, and then does not qualify for benefits because the
18 child is twenty-four years of age; and
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20 WHEREAS, the administrative rules of the Hawaii Employer-
21 Union Health Benefits Trust Fund should be amended in order to
22 accommodate the employee beneficiary's dependent children who
23 have served in active military service with the reserves or
24 national guard, as described herein, because they effectively
25 continue their dependency while enrolled in higher education and
26 their ability to obtain higher education was interrupted due to
27 military service; and
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1 WHEREAS, allowing this class of dependent children to
2 continue to be eligible for health benefits encourages them to
3 continue with their college education; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
7 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Trustees
8 of the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund amend
9 its administrative rules to allow a dependent beneficiary who
10 was under the age of twenty-four when called to active duty with
11 the military reserves or national guard, who has returned to
12 Hawaii, who has resumed or commenced education as a student, and
13 who then has reached age twenty-four, to allow that dependent
14 beneficiary to continue eligibility after reaching age twenty-
15 four, possibly by excluding the time the child serves in active
16 service; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the
19 Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund report on its
20 progress in making the appropriate administrative rule
21 amendments, including any necessary statutory amendments, to the
22 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
23 the Regular Session of 2009; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Board of Trustees of the
27 Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, and the State
28 Director of Finance.
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OFFERED BY: *Ronald*
by request