

DARWIN L.D, CHING DIRECTOR

COLLEEN Y, LaCLAIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS 830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 <u>www.hawaii.gov/labor</u> Phone: (808) 586-8842 / Fax; (808) 586-9099 Email: <u>dlir.director@hawaii.gov</u>

February 1, 2008

LATE TESTIMONY

To:

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair

and Members of the Senate Committee on Education

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair

and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Date:

February 1, 2008

Time:

3:45 a.m.

Place:

Conference Room 225, State Capitol

From:

Darwin L.D. Ching, Director

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Testimony in Support of S.B. 2680 – Relating to Workers' Compensation

I. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Senate Bill 2680 proposes to provide for workers' compensation coverage for students participating in school-approved work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education or the University of Hawaii.

II. CURRENT LAW

Currently, state law provides workers' compensation coverage to students participating in school-approved work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education or the University of Hawaii for private employers, but not public employers.

III. SENATE BILL

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations ("Department") supports this bill as it would allow the students participating in school-approved work-based learning programs sponsored by the Department of Education or the University of Hawaii to be placed with public employers.