

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

147

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 19 2009

RE: S.B. No. 1664

S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 1664
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT SECURITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to clarify and temporarily
codify implementation of a partial unemployment insurance system
and extend the duration of employees' eligibility for unemployment
benefits under partial unemployment insurance from four weeks to
eight weeks.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by two
organizations.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations supported
the intent of the measure.

Your Committee finds that the people currently claiming
unemployment benefits from the State also include many who are
employed but are working fewer hours than they had previously
worked because their employers could not afford to retain them as
full-time workers.

Your Committee also finds that, given the current economic
situation, employers may benefit by cutting their employees' hours
while continuing to provide certain benefits, rather than laying
off employees completely. In doing so, employers may maintain



their employees' loyalty and productivity when the economy recovers and employees are again needed on a full-time basis.

Your Committee further finds that the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations already implements a partial unemployment insurance system through its administrative rules and has assisted employees during work slowdowns for several businesses in the past.

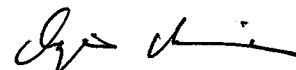
Your Committee finds that although this measure differs from the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' existing administrative rules by extending partial unemployment from four to eight weeks, the Department has extended the period of eligibility for partial unemployment in the past, as the extension is also permitted in its administrative rules. The Department recommended that the proposed section 383-B(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, be eliminated, as the intent and application of that subsection is unclear.

Your Committee has accordingly amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the proposed section 383-B(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1664, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1664, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Labor,



DWIGHT Y. TAKAMINE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor
LBR

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">SB 1664</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">LBR, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">2/10/09</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-end;"> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TAKAMINE, Dwight Y. (C)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)	✓			
BUNDA, Robert	✓			
HEE, Clayton	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-left: 50px;">[Signature]</div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Original File with Committee Report</div> <div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div>Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**