

Testimony for LBR 2/10/2009 2:45:00 PM SB62

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: oppose

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Bob Hansen

Organization: Individual

Address:

Phone:

E-mail: dad@mauirealestate.net

Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

Anything that has to do with making it harder for businesses to stay in business is ridiculous at this time or any time.

Work*Star™

Injury Recovery Center

91-2135 Fort Weaver Road, Suite 170, Ewa Beach, HI 96706

Phone: (808) 676-5331 • Fax: (808) 671-2931

February 07, 2009

Senate Labor Committee
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 306
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair and Finance Committee Members:

Re: SB 62

I am writing in support of SB 62. Never in the history of Worker's Compensation reform, has a measure come before you that is so simple in design that could do so much for our conflict-ridden Worker's Compensation System. This piece of legislation was crafted by experienced Worker's Compensation participants and is the product of the effort of treating physicians, vocational rehabilitation counselors, physical therapists, and injured workers and self-less workers compensation attorneys dedicated to improving our own local Worker's Compensation System.

Unfortunately WC has degenerated over the last two decades into a conflict-ridden free-for-all driven primarily by insurers who have chosen to put profits before people and the bottom line before common sense. By seeking common ground and choosing a truly objective third party evaluator for industrial cases so much can be accomplished to efficientize our system.

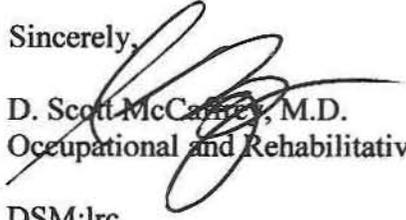
The reason this measure will work in helping to both lower costs and insure care is that it has already been implemented successfully in a similar litigious-based healthcare delivery system here in the islands – Hawaii's No-Fault auto injury system. **Parties have been utilizing an agreed upon IME concept for over 5 years with dramatic improvement in patient outcomes and a reasonable but effective cost containment effect on the payer, on the insurer, and ultimately, on the premium payer.**

Those who oppose this bill are either myopic, uninformed, or unfortunately, have a vested interest in the present level of system conflict. This is indeed fortunate because our system is now, not only locally, but also nationally one of the most litigious and patient unfriendly in the nation. Likewise, the 90% community physician "silent boycott" presently being practiced by local physicians is "writing on the wall" which should be heeded if we are going to restore some measure of equity and efficiency in our system.

There are so many things that our system needs to restore it to the efficient safety net it was originally designed and envisioned to be for Hawaii's injured workers. Senate Bill 62 is, in essence, a gentle and long overdue remedy.

Thank you for supporting this law which will go a long way toward adding a level of efficiency sorely needed and desperately missing.

Sincerely,



D. Scott McCaffrey, M.D.
Occupational and Rehabilitative Medicine

DSM:lrc



Hawaii State Chiropractic Association

P.O. Box 22668 Honolulu, HI 96823-2668
ph: (808) 926-8883 fx: (808) 926-8884

February 5, 2009

The Senate
Committee on Labor
Chair Sen. Dwight Takamine
Vice Chair Sen. Brian Taniguchi

Testimony for hearing
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2009
Time: 2:45 pm
Conference Room 224

Chair Takamine, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and members of the committee

My name is Gary Saito and I am the President and Executive Director of the Hawaii State Chiropractic Association. We are in **support of the intent of SB 62.**

We believe that mutual agreement between the employer and the employee in selecting an IME physician is crucial to insuring that a truly impartial injury and disability evaluation is conducted.

Opposition to this bill would demonstrate that one of the parties means to prejudice the IME process and findings by depriving the other party an equal input in the selection of the examiner. IME examinations and impairment ratings must be done in the most impartial and professional manner by a truly independent examiner. The fairest way to insure this is to have all parties mutually agree on the IME examiner.

If this bill becomes laws, there will be fewer disputes over compensability and liability issues, it will be harder for either party to dispute the IME findings, and there will be fewer adjudicated cases at the Department of Labor. Instead, what we have today are unnecessary disputes, hostility between the employer and employee, more legal involvement, delays in providing appropriate treatments to injured employees, and burdens on the DCD hearings process.

A simple requirement that the employer and employee must agree on the IME examiner or PPD rating physician would remedy our current convoluted and contentious process.

Thank you for allowing us to provide comments on this bill.

Sincerely,

Gary Saito, DC
President and ED, HSCA

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Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Ulrich Okura Kirkegaard

Organization: Maui Tech Guru

Address:

Phone:

E-mail: uli@mauitechguru.com

Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

will limit business growth in this economy especially.

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Submitted by: Leilani Pulmano

Organization: Individual

Address: 27 Piina Place Lahaina, HI

Phone: 808-357-9333

E-mail: Leilani.Pulmano@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

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PETITION

I am an injured worker. Please support SB 62 (a.k.a. Workers' Compensation; Medical Examinations; Selections of Physicians). Immediate access to fair medical assessments will facilitate my recovery and my return to work.

NAME (print & sign)	CONTACT #	DATE
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Louis G Costa Jr. Louis G Costa	561-0230	2-6-09
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Paul O. Pradiva Paul O. Pradiva	343-0388	2-6-09
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Danny McMonigle	239-6112	2-6-09
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ARJUNE YUWALAKA Raymond	3482482	2/6/09
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Darrell Kern Darrell Kern	578698	2-9-09
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Anthony Sanchez Anthony Sanchez	698-2897	2-9-09
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Desiree Kupineo-Tuiloma Desiree Kupineo	953-0502	2-9-09
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Jraig Tupuola	479-1261	2-9-09
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Rhonda Villanueva Rhonda Villanueva	712-5115 878 0253	2-9-09
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Charlene M. Cordeiro Tamedas	630-0288	2-10-09
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FEB 11 2009

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NAME (print & sign)	CONTACT #	DATE
Adelaide Hernandez <i>Adelaide Hernandez</i>	203-7022	2/3/09
Ladd F <i>Ladd F</i>	488-3399	2/3/09
Stephen Kato <i>SK=0</i>	224-0063	2/3/2009
Chris Lee	360-2077	2/3/2009
ALBERTO VALENZUELA	349-3707	2/3/2009
DEBORAH Rautar	732-2636	2/3/2009
Stephanie Haynes	348-2923	2/3/2009
Ivan Ibanez	753-7524	2/3/2009
Michelle Schaefer <i>M Schaefer</i>	375-0014	2/3/09
Arteen Perez <i>Arteen Perez</i>	253-9824	2-04-09
DAVID ISHII <i>David Ishii</i>	258-3688	2-4-09
Kirk Kawamoto <i>Kirk Kawamoto</i>	306-8777	2-4-09
<i>Maaf P. P. P.</i>		2/4/09
<i>Pauli Oliver</i>	455-1301	2/4/09 10:30
Rita Ramos	489-4916	2/4/09 0:50
Bergrd Bartolome	636-8014	11:50 2/4/09
Sam Shafer Jr	306-1171	2/5
Elaine Mortensen <i>Elaine Mortensen</i>	261-5491	05 Feb 09
David Johnston	487-8888	2/5/09
RUBEN PARKER, JR.	783-3125	2/5/09
Yvon H. Konanni	383-4129	2/5/09
Monica Moncia	371-7091	2/6/09
JOHN J. REILLY III <i>John J. Reilly III</i>	671-7137	06 FEB 2009
VERNON BRONCO <i>Vernon Bronco</i>	306-9072	2/6/09