STAND. COM. REP. NO. 816 -10

Honolulu, Hawaii M. 18, 2010 RE: S.B. No. 2050

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Fifth State Legislature Regular Session of 2010 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2050 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION IN WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to assist injured workers in obtaining gainful employment by clarifying the steps that must be taken to develop a vocational rehabilitation plan under the workers' compensation law. Specifically, this measure requires a provider of rehabilitation services to determine if modified or other work with the injured worker's current employer represents suitable gainful employment under a rehabilitation plan.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, ILWU Local 142, Hawaii Insurers Council, and Hawaii Injured Workers Alliance testified in support of this bill.

Employees experience injuries in the workplace each year in Hawaii. While many may be minor injuries, some require that an injured worker seek vocational rehabilitation to continue to be gainfully employed. The most logical and common sense approach to returning these injured workers into the workforce is to maintain the injured worker's employment with the same employer but in a new or modified job that is consistent with the worker's physical or mental limitations. This measure seeks to achieve this goal.



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As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor & Public Employment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2050 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment,

KARL RHOADS, Chair



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-fifth Legislature

HOUR 816-10

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Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Bill/Resolution No.: SB2050	Committee Referral: LAB; FIN			
The committee is reconsidering its previo				
	namended (as is)	ss, with amendments (mmit for future public		
LAB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. RHOADS, Karl (C)		2		
2. YAMASHITA, Kyle T. (VC)			a second second second	
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	-			
4. AWANA, Karen Leinani	-			
5. HANOHANO, Faye P.				
6. KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.				
7. LEE, Marilyn B.	/			
8. NAKASHIMA, Mark M.	/			
9. SAIKI, Scott K.				
10. SOUKI, Joseph M.				
11. TAKUMI, Roy M.				
12. PINE, Kymberly Marcos				
12. The Kymberry Marcus				
TOTAL (12)	11	-	-	1
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				