

LORETTA J. FUDDY, A.C.S.W., M.P.H. DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

> In reply, please refer to: File:

Committee on Human Services

P.O. Box 3378 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

H.B. 2571, Relating to Employment Exemption for Domestic Services for Persons with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H. Director of Health February 2, 2012

- 1 Department's Position: The department strongly supports this administration proposal.
- 2 Fiscal Implications: None.
- Purpose and Justification: H.B. 2571 will amend Chapter 383-7, 386-1, 392-5, and 393-5, Hawaii
- 4 Revised Statutes, to exempt recipients of state funded social service payments to developmental and
- 5 intellectual disabilities from providing unemployment insurance, workers compensation, temporary
- 6 disability insurance, and pre-paid health care.
- 7 H.B. 2571 will provide clarification by exempting recipients of the Department of Human Services
- 8 state-funded home and community based services from having to provide unemployment insurance,
- 9 workers compensation, temporary disability insurance, and pre-paid health care. This exemption will
- 10 allow flexibility for individuals receiving state funded medical assistance but, ineligible for Medicaid
- 11 (Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waiver program). These individuals will not have to
- pay those fees when service is performed by an independent contractor or employee of the individual.
- 13 The Department of Health supports H.B. 2571 as it will allow individuals with developmental and
- intellectual disabilities greater access to needed services and the flexibility in obtaining such services.
- 15 Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



DWIGHT Y. TAKAMINE DIRECTOR

AUDREY HIDANO DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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February 2, 2012

To:

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair, Jo Jordan, Vice Chair, and Members

of the House Committee on Human Services

Date:

Thursday, February 2, 2012

Time:

8:30 a.m.

Place:

Conference Room 329, State Capitol

From:

Dwight Y. Takamine, Director

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Re: H.B. No. 2571 Relating to Employment Exemption for Domestic Services for Persons with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities

I. OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

This proposal amends Sections 386-1(6), 392-5(19), and 393-7(d), HRS, to broaden the definition of excluded domestic services for persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities under medicaid to now include services "provided through state funded medical assistance to individuals ineligible for medicaid." The department supports this measure.

II. CURRENT LAW

The current statutes exclude from employment domestic services performed for persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities under the medicaid home and community-based services program pursuant to Title 42 Code Federal Regulations.

III. COMMENTS ON THE HOUSE BILL

The department supports the Administration's proposal from the Department of Health.



STATE OF HAWAII

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February 2, 2012

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair The Honorable Jo Jordan, Vice Chair Twenty-Sixth Legislature State Capitol State of Hawaii Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Representatives Mizuno and Jordan and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: HB 2571 – RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT EXEMPTION FOR DOMESTIC SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL AND INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES.

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 2571.** The purpose of the bill is to amend the definition of "employment" in various sections of the Hawaii Revised Statutes by clarifying the "domestic services" exclusion for services to persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

The passage of HB 2571 would provide clarification by exempting recipients of Department of Human Services state-funded home and community-based services (HCBS) from having to provide unemployment insurance, workers compensation, temporary disability insurance, and pre-paid health care insurance. These recipients are not Medicaid eligible, however, receive state-funded HCBS. The provisions in the bill would enable them to have increased flexibility to obtain services from independent contractors.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support of HB 2571.**

Sincerely,

Sin ann Salvador
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Waynette K.Y. Cabral, MSW

Executive Administrator