A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 386, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
- 3 and to read as follows:
- 4 "§386- Payment by employer for compensable injuries.
- 5 (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the employer shall
- 6 pay for all medical services required by the employee related to
- 7 the compensable injury and the employee's rehabilitation. The
- 8 employer shall not be required to pay for medical services
- 9 unrelated to the compensable injury.
- 10 (b) If the employer elects to controvert the employee's
- 11 claim for medical services or any portion thereof, the employer
- 12 shall provide notice of the denial to the health care provider
- 13 within sixty calendar days of the date that the employer
- 14 receives the bill from the health care provider. In the event
- 15 that the employer fails to dispute the employee's claim with the
- 16 health care provider within the sixty-day period, the employer

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- 1 shall be liable for the services provided, with reasonable
- 2 evidence showing that the billing was received.
- 3 (c) The employer shall pay for all charges billed within
- 4 sixty calendar days of receipt of such charges; except for items
- 5 where:
- 6 (1) There is a reasonable disagreement; and
- 7 (2) The employer has submitted timely notice as required
- **8** under subsection (b).
- 9 (d) If more than sixty calendar days have lapsed between
- 10 the employer's receipt of an undisputed billing and date of
- 11 payment, payment of the billing shall be increased by one per
- 12 cent per month of the outstanding balance."
- 13 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.
- 14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.

Report Title:

Workers' Compensation; Compensable Medical Bills; Employer Payment

Description:

Requires an employer to pay for all medical services related to an employee's compensable injury and the employee's rehabilitation within 60 days of receipt of the bill for services. Establishes a process for employers to dispute the payment of an employee's medical bill. Takes effect 1/1/2050. (SD1)

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