



## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

April 29, 2020

Mr. Scott Murakami, Director  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
830 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Director Murakami:

At the April 28, 2020 meeting held by the Senate's Special Committee on COVID-19, following discussions on the department's efforts to get unemployment insurance payments to people who are unemployed or are considered qualified whether or not they were employed, you were asked to provide the following:

- The department's plans on how to notify applicants why a claim was held up or denied as well as next-steps and follow-up contact information;
- Your assessment of the methods employed by Texas, Louisiana, and Vermont to distribute federal payments for those who may be qualified under the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program for otherwise ineligible workers, ahead of the department's claims verification, and whether you intend to adopt one all or a portion of those methods;
- A completed copy of the attached form requesting additional redeployment of workers from the Department of Human Resources Department; and
- An update on the numbers of claims at Levels 1, 2 and 3 **by May 6, 2020**, and the challenges you expect to face on that date;

Other than the one request due on May 6, 2020, the Committee requests your response by Friday, May 1, 2020.

As for responses that you receive from the various parties listed in this memo, please provide this Committee with a copy of their responses, if any, as soon as they are received.

Please email your response to all Senate Special Committee COVID-19 members. Should you have any questions, please contact Dane Wicker at 586-6639 or via email at [d.wicker@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:d.wicker@capitol.hawaii.gov).

Mahalo,

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz    Senator Jarrett Keohokalole  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani    Senator Donna Mercado Kim  
Senator Sharon Moriwaki    Senator Kurt Fevella

cc: Senate President  
All Senators

State Senate, State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813