



GOV. MSG. NO. 1195

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

June 27, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 27, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

HB1944 HD2 SD1 CD1

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.
ACT 094

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 1944
H.D. 2
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to expedite the
2 diagnosis of, and streamline medical treatment for, serious
3 injuries to the cervical or lumbar spine that could result in
4 paralysis for injuries sustained by an employee while working.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 386, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
7 and to read as follows:

8 "§386- Cervical and lumbar spinal injuries; treatment
9 plan not required. During the first sixty days after an injury,
10 an employee may obtain the following medical care or services
11 without a treatment plan:

12 (1) One magnetic resonance imaging of the cervical spine
13 if the employee's attending physician determines that:

14 (A) The employee has objective indicia of radicular
15 symptoms and the radicular symptoms reasonably
16 could be caused by injury to the cervical spine;

17 or



- 1 (B) The employee has objective traumatic injury or
2 other neurologic symptoms to the cervical spine
3 shown by an x-ray or computed tomography scan;
4 (2) One magnetic resonance imaging of the lumbar spine if
5 the employee's attending physician determines that:
6 (A) The employee has objective indicia of radicular
7 symptoms and the radicular symptoms reasonably
8 could be caused by injury to the lumbar spine; or
9 (B) The employee has objective traumatic injury or
10 other neurologic symptoms to the lumbar spine
11 shown by an x-ray or computed tomography scan;
12 and
13 (3) One consultation with an orthopedic or neurologic
14 specialist if the employee's attending physician
15 reasonably determines that the opinion or advice of an
16 orthopedic or neurologic specialist should be obtained
17 for the evaluation and treatment of the employee's
18 injury; provided that:
19 (A) The orthopedic or neurologic specialist shall
20 provide written notice of the consultation to the



1 employer within seven days of the consultation;
2 and
3 (B) The orthopedic or neurologic specialist shall
4 provide a written report to the employer within
5 fourteen days of the consultation."

6 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

APPROVED this 27th day of June , 2024



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



HB No. 1944, HD 2, SD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives





Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate