

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1232

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

June 24, 2026

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

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

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 24, 2026, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 1509, H.D. 2, S.D. 1,
C.D. 1

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.
ACT 131

Mahalo,

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

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 386-21.2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "~~{}~~**\$386-21.2**~~{}~~ **Treatment plans.** [~~(a)~~ A physician may
4 ~~transmit a treatment plan to an employer by mail or facsimile;~~
5 ~~provided that the physician shall send the treatment plan to an~~
6 ~~address or facsimile number provided by the employer.~~

7 ~~(b)~~ Beginning January 1, 2021, an] (a) An employer shall
8 allow a physician to transmit a treatment plan to an employer by
9 mail, facsimile, or secure electronic means; provided that the
10 physician shall send the treatment plan to an address or
11 facsimile number provided by the employer.

12 [~~(e)~~] (b) A treatment plan shall be deemed received by an
13 employer when the plan is [~~sent by mail or facsimile~~]
14 transmitted with reasonable evidence showing that the treatment
15 plan was received.

16 (c) An employer shall, within ten days after the treatment
17 plan is deemed received pursuant to subsection (b), file a



1 response with the director either accepting or objecting to the
2 treatment plan by secure electronic means. An employer who
3 fails to file a response within the ten-day period shall be
4 fined \$1,000, unless the director determines there was good
5 cause for the delay.

6 (d) A treatment plan shall be deemed accepted if an
7 employer fails to file with the director[+], with a copy to the
8 physician and the injured employee:

9 (1) An objection to the treatment plan;

10 (2) Any applicable documentary medical evidence supporting
11 the denial; and

12 (3) A copy of the denied treatment plan,
13 ~~[copying the physician and the injured employee.]~~ within the
14 ten-day period under subsection (c).

15 (e) After acceptance of the treatment plan, an employer
16 may file an objection to the plan if new documentary medical
17 evidence supporting the denial is received by the employer.

18 (f) Any employer found by the director to have denied a
19 treatment plan without reasonable grounds, frivolously, or
20 primarily for purposes of delay, shall be subject to the payment
21 of costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by the



1 injured employee or by any authorized representative, billing
2 agent, or health care provider acting on behalf of the injured
3 employee in contesting the denial of the treatment plan or
4 enforcing payment pursuant to the treatment plan. The director
5 may enforce the penalties imposed by this section."

6 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
7 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
8 begun before its effective date.

9 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.



H.B. NO. 1509
H.D. 2
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 24th day of June , 2026



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 1509, HD 2, SD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026.



Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker
House of Representatives




Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives


THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I

Date: May 6, 2026
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai‘i, Regular Session of 2026.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate