

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2026

COMMITTEE ON LABOR

Rep. Jackson D. Sayama, Chair
Rep. Mike Lee, Vice Chair

Rep. Andrew Takuya Garrett Rep. Sam Satoru Kong
Rep. Jeanne Kapela Rep. Julie Reyes Oda

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, February 17, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 309
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Click [here](#) to submit testimony and to testify remotely or in person.

A live stream link of all House Standing Committee meetings will be available online shortly before the scheduled start time.

Click [here](#) for the live stream of this meeting via YouTube.

A G E N D A

HB 1509 Status

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

LAB, CPC

Requires an employer to file a response, either accepting or objecting to a treatment plan, within seven days of receipt. Imposes a monetary penalty if an employer does not file a response within the seven-day period. Clarifies that a treatment plan is deemed accepted if an employer fails to file certain documents within the seven-day period.

HB 1514 Status

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

LAB, CPC

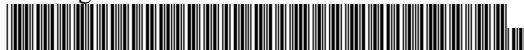
Clarifies the process for selecting a certified provider of rehabilitation services. Requires providers to automatically approve vocational rehabilitation services for an injured employee if those services will likely be required for suitable gainful employment. Requires providers to file an employee's vocational plan no later than ninety days after submitting an initial evaluation report, with certain exceptions.



<u>HB 1515</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Authorizes an attending physician to request a functional capacity examination and refer an injured employee for the examination without first obtaining permission from the employee's employer. Allows licensed occupational and physical therapists to be deemed qualified to perform functional capacity examinations.	LAB, CPC
<u>HB 1648</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Prohibits health care providers from prescribing or dispensing nonprescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, and nonlegend drugs for workers' compensation patients.	LAB, CPC
<u>HB 2164</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION. Defines compounded prescription drugs for the purposes of workers' compensation law.	LAB, CPC
<u>HB 2323</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW. Repeals the requirement that health care providers' forms be filed with the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) in triplicate. Clarifies the way a physician transmits a treatment plan to an employer. Repeals a reference to the employer's receipt of a vocational rehabilitation plan by mail. Repeals the option of employers to submit reports to the DLIR via United States mail. Repeals the option of health care providers to provide reports to the DLIR or employer via mail.	LAB, CPC
<u>HB 1825, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR78-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD. Permits the Department of Education and charter schools to hire unlicensed individuals as teachers on an emergency basis for five, rather than three, years. Requires the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to adopt rules. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	EDN, LAB, CPC
<u>HB 2172, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR68-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT OF RETIRANTS. Establishes a 5-year pilot program to authorize the Department of Education to rehire retired teachers and educational officers for hard-to-staff positions. Repeals 6/30/2031. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	EDN, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 1888, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR76-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE SAFETY OF EDUCATIONAL WORKERS. Requires the Department of Education and public charter schools to take certain steps to report incidents of harassment and implement procedures for handling harassment of educational workers. Includes the disruption or interference with the administration or functions of any school, school administration office, or school board in the offense of harassment. Elevates the penalty for harassment to a misdemeanor when the recipient is an educational worker. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	EDN, LAB, JHA
<u>HB 2005, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR122-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO LANGUAGE ACCESS. Establishes a statewide language access education and workforce development program at the University of Hawaii. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	HED, LAB, FIN



<u>HB 1872, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR130-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO AN EARLY LEARNING APPRENTICESHIP GRANT PROGRAM. Establishes an Early Learning Apprenticeship Grant Program to be administered by the University of Hawaii to provide financial support for early learning program service providers in the State to participate in state- or federally-approved early learning apprenticeship programs. Requires an annual report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	HED/EDN, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 2416, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR133-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO A MARITIME YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAY PROGRAM. Directs the University of Hawaii Community College System, in partnership with state agencies and maritime employers, to conduct a study and develop a plan for a statewide Maritime Youth Apprenticeship Program for individuals ages 16 to 24. Requires a report to the Legislature with recommendations on program structure, resource needs, proposed legislation and implementation options. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	HED, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 2291, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR195-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD. Clarifies that employees of the Hawaii National Guard youth and adult educational programs are excluded from collective bargaining. Renames the "Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Program" to the "Hawaii National Guard Civil-Military Program" and codifies its Hawaiian name, "Nā Kula Alaka'i". Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	PBS, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 2292, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR225-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY. Authorizes the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to convert temporary special project positions created for Federal Emergency Management Agency funded disaster recovery operations into permanent positions exempt from civil service, subject to certain limitations. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	PBS, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 2263, HD1</u> <u>(HSCR197-26)</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO MILITARY FAMILIES. Authorizes an eligible employee to take family leave for a qualifying military exigency under state law. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	PBS, LAB, FIN
<u>HB 2359</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO RETIRANTS. Establishes a five-year pilot program allowing retirants to be rehired for exempt service for one-year terms under certain circumstances. Provides that retirants employed under the program are excluded from the Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund and will not experience an interruption of pension benefits. Requires an employer of a retirant under the program to contribute to the Employees' Retirement System. Requires the Department of Human Resources Development to submit a report to the Legislature. Sunsets 6/30/2031.	LAB, FIN
<u>HB 2358</u> <u>Status</u>	RELATING TO RETIREMENT. Provides elective officers with the choice to be members of the Employees' Retirement System after each election. Repeals the condition that a choice to be excluded from the Employees' Retirement System is irrevocable and such choice may only be made once.	LAB, FIN



[HB 2455](#)

[Status](#)

RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES.

LAB, JHA

Requires certain employers to provide unpaid and paid leave of absence for victims of workplace violence or threat of workplace violence. Expands the type of certification an employee may provide to an employer if the leave exceeds five days per calendar year.

DECISION MAKING TO FOLLOW

Persons wishing to offer comments should submit testimony at least **24 hours** prior to the hearing. Testimony received after this time will be stamped late and left to the discretion of the chair to consider. While every effort will be made to incorporate all testimony received, materials received on the day of the hearing or improperly identified or directed, may not be processed.

Testimony submitted will be placed on the legislative website. This public posting of testimony on the website should be considered when including personal information in your testimony.

The chair may institute a per-testifier time limit.

Committees meeting in the morning must adjourn prior to the day's Floor Session. Therefore, due to time constraints, not all testifiers may be provided an opportunity to offer verbal comments. However, written submissions will be considered by the committee.

Please refrain from profanity or uncivil behavior. Violations may result in ejection from the hearing without the ability to rejoin.

For remote testifiers, the House will not be responsible for bad connections on the testifier's end.

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov.

The livestream and/or cable TV broadcast of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation (including oral, written, or ASL interpretive services) or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee clerk at (808) 586-6900. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

Click [here](#) for a complete list of House Guidelines for remote testimony.

FOR AMENDED NOTICES: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are bolded.

For more information, please contact the Committee Clerk at (808) 586-6900.

Rep. Jackson D. Sayama
Chair

