A Bill for an Act Relating to Compensation of Public Officers and Employees. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 77-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 77-10 Promotions, demotions, reallocations, and assignments; rules. The state director or the county commissions shall adopt rules to provide for adjustments and changes in compensation in the event of promotions, temporary promotions and assignments, demotions, and for the purpose of implementing section 77-12. In the case of promotions, reallocations or temporary assignments to higher grades, the rules shall provide that the employee shall receive no less than (1) the rate of the next higher step of his existing pay range, if his existing rate is on a step, or (2) his existing rate added to the dollar difference between the steps above and below his existing rate, if his existing rate is in-between steps of his existing pay range. The rules may provide methods of pay adjustment, if applicable, for employees who are at or above the maximum step of his existing pay range; provided that in no event may an employee's compensation be increased to an amount which will exceed the highest pay step of the higher pay range. The employee's service anniversary date shall not change. The rules shall be adopted only after joint conference of the state director and all county commissions and shall be uniformly applied and interpreted throughout the State and the several counties. The rules shall give proper consideration to merit principles of employment and due recognition to length of service in the event of demotions resulting from physical conditions. No rule shall be applied in any way in violation of sound merit principles."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this Act, the revisor of statutes need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.*

SECTION 3. This Act, upon its approval, shall take effect retroactive to July 1, 1977.

(Approved June 2, 1978.)

^{*}Edited accordingly.