

Honolulu, Hawaii  
**February 11**, 2016  
RE: H.B. No. 2017

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2016  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred H.B. No. 2017 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION  
TREATMENT PLANS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to improve the efficiency of Hawaii's workers' compensation system by allowing physicians to transmit an injured employee's treatment plan to an employer via facsimile, e-mail, or other internet communication.

The Hawaii Injured Workers Association, Hawaii Academy of Physician Assistants, Automated HealthCare Solutions, and several individuals testified in support of this measure. The Department of Human Resources of the City and County of Honolulu and National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies testified in opposition to this measure. The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Department of Human Resources Development, and Hawaii Insurers Council provided comments on this measure.

Your Committee notes that concerns were raised in testimony on whether the seven-day denial period allows an employer adequate time to properly and comprehensively analyze a proposed treatment plan. Given the balance needed to ensure timely communication while maintaining appropriate acceptance or denial of proposed treatment plans, should the Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce deliberate on this measure, your Committee respectfully requests further examination on what may constitute a more feasible deadline.



As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor & Public Employment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2017 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Labor & Public  
Employment,



---

MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB2017</b>	Committee Referral: <b>LAB, LPC</b>	Date: <b>2/5/16</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
<b>LAB Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	/			
2. KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	/			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.				/
4. HAR, Sharon E.	/			
5. ICHIYAMA, Linda	/			
6. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling	/			
7. LoPRESTI, Matthew S.	/			
8. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	/			
9. TAKUMI, Roy M.	/			
10. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	/			
11. TUPOLA, Andria P.L.				/
<b>TOTAL (11)</b>	<b>9</b>			<b>2</b>
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				