
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS TO
CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO STREAMLINE THE STATE'S WORKERS'
COMPENSATION PROCESS.

1 WHEREAS, the purpose of the State's workers' compensation
2 law is to provide wage loss compensation and medical care to
3 employees for work-related injuries; and
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5 WHEREAS, workers' compensation claims are processed by the
6 Disability Compensation Division of the Department of Labor and
7 Industrial Relations; and
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9 WHEREAS, the current workers' compensation system is, at
10 times, inadequate in providing timely relief to workers injured
11 in the course of their employment; and
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13 WHEREAS, injured claimants have experienced significant
14 delays in the processing of their workers' compensation claims;
15 and
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17 WHEREAS, injured claimants have complained that scheduling
18 an independent medical examination can take longer than a year
19 despite repeated requests and inquiries; and
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21 WHEREAS, payments following the execution of a settlement
22 agreement have also been known to take over six months to
23 process; now, therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
27 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
28 Labor and Industrial Relations is requested to convene a working
29 group to streamline the State's workers' compensation process
30 under chapter 386, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that
2 the working group consider streamlining the filing process for
3 workers' compensation claims by converting to a computerized
4 system; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Labor and
7 Industrial Relations or the Department's Deputy Director is
8 requested to serve as Chairperson of the working group and to
9 invite the following to serve as members:

- 10 (1) The Director of Human Resources Development or the
- 11 Director's designee;
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- 13 (2) Insurers that issue workers' compensation insurance
- 14 policies in the State;
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- 16 (3) Attorneys who represent employers and employees in
- 17 workers' compensation claims;
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- 19 (4) A representative of a mutual benefit society operating
- 20 in the State;
- 21
- 22 (5) A representative of a health maintenance organization
- 23 operating in the State;
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- 25 (6) Health care providers; and
- 26
- 27 (7) Any other persons deemed appropriate by the
- 28 Chairperson of the working group; and
- 29
- 30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Senate and
32 the Speaker of the House of Representatives are each requested
33 to appoint one person to serve as a member of the working group;
34 and

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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
37 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
38 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
39 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
40 of 2017; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Labor
3 and Industrial Relations and the Director of Human Resources
4 Development.

