
HOUSE 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
4

5 WHEREAS, workers' compensation claims are processed by the
6 Disability Compensation Division of the Department of Labor and
7 Industrial Relations; and
8

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
12

13 WHEREAS, injured claimants have experienced significant
14 delays in the processing of their workers' compensation claims;
15 and
16

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
20

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,
24

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, that the Department of Labor and Industrial
28 Relations is requested to convene a working group to streamline
29 the State's workers' compensation process under chapter 386,
30 Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
31



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

5

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

11 (1) The Director of Human Resources Development or the
12 Director's designee;

13

14 (2) Insurers that issue workers' compensation insurance
15 policies in the State;

16

17 (3) Attorneys who represent employers and employees in
18 workers' compensation claims;

19

20 (4) A representative of a mutual benefit society operating
21 in the State;

22

23 (5) A representative of a health maintenance organization
24 operating in the State;

25

26 (6) Health care providers; and

27

28 (7) Any other persons deemed appropriate by the
29 Chairperson of the working group; and

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

35

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

41



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

