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July 5, 2016

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: JoAnn A. Vidinhar, Administrator *gml*

SUBJECT: 2016 Amendments to the Hawaii Workers' Compensation Law
(Chapter 386, Hawaii Revised Statutes)

ACT 187, HB 2363 CD 1, signed by the Governor and effective July 1, 2016, provides the following:

1. Section 386-31. Subsection (b) increases penalty from not more than \$2,500 to not more than \$5,000 against an employer or insurance carrier for failure to make correct or timely benefit payments or terminates such benefits without approval or statutory cause.
2. Section 386-95. Allows employer or insurance carrier to file reports of injuries or other reports as required by electronic means as approved by the director.
3. Section 386-96. Subsection (b) increases penalty from not more than \$250 to not more than \$500 against a physician for failure to either submit a report or file a timely report. Subsection (d) increases penalty from not to exceed \$1,000 to not to exceed \$5,000 against employer/insurance carrier for failure to furnish medical reports to the injured employee or allow inspection and copying of transcripts of depositions of medical witnesses. Subsection (e) allows for initial reports to be filed by electronic means as approved by the director.
4. Section 386-123. Increases penalty from \$250 to \$500 minimum and from \$10 to \$100 assessment per employee for every day employer fails to obtain security for compensation.
5. Section 386-129. Increases penalty from not more than \$2,500 to not more than \$5,000 against employer for the deduction of premium payment from employee wages.

To view ACT 187, go to <http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>
Click on "Reports and Lists", go to "Governor's Actions". Click on "Acts".

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