

## Legislative Report 2018

### **Bills that Died**

**Minimum Wage Proposal** – This law could have increased to \$22.00 an hour in the next few years.

### **Vehicle Safety Checks**

Payment would be every other year on vehicles 6 years or younger. BUT the fee would double.

**Truck Weight** -Trucks over 10, 000 GVW cannot drive on the left lane on H-1, H-2 or H-3.

### **Handyman Bill**

The realtors proposal to increase the amount of a project to \$5,000.00 for not needing a contractor's license. These unlicensed people do not pay workers compensation, license fees, recovery fund fees, GET, and does not even have to use a written contract. Realtors want it so they can close escrow fast with an unlicensed person.

### **Sublisting**

If you are a state or county contractor (primary or subcontractor) there was a major battle to eliminate the sublisting and another against a two year UH "pilot" project with no listing for jobs under \$5,000,000.

### **Past Performance**

To be used (instead of low bid) in selecting contractors for state and county work projects. Much discussion over the criteria government would use to evaluate. On the one hand they would have rated how timely the general paid his subs but on the other hand, they would only accept reports and input from the general contractor and not the sub who was paid late or not at all.

### **Family Leave**

It is likely to work similar to Temporary Disability Insurance paid for by BOTH employee and employer. The amount to be determined and applies to all employers even with one employee. Proposed not to start until 2020 but funding may begin sooner. Employee can use for care of a new child or family member. Proposed to pay 75% of wages for a maximum of 16 weeks.

### **Neighbor Island Half Percent Charge**

Bill to allow the other three counties (Kauai, Maui and Big Island) to charge the additional one half of one per cent GET for rail (or other transportation projects) like Oahu. The neighbor island County Councils would have to authorize. Don't get caught like some Oahu businesses did when the rail tax went into effect and they had already signed long term contracts at 4% when the 4 1/2% tax took effect. Neighbor island members should fix your contracts now to state your price and then add "plus all applicable taxes".

### **Marijuana**

A marijuana proposal that will not allow the employer to discharge, suspend or discriminate against an employee caught "stoned" but has a medical certificate. Almost any action for employment could wind up with a discrimination charge. Still illegal on the federal level but when it is legal on the state level, you are caught between?